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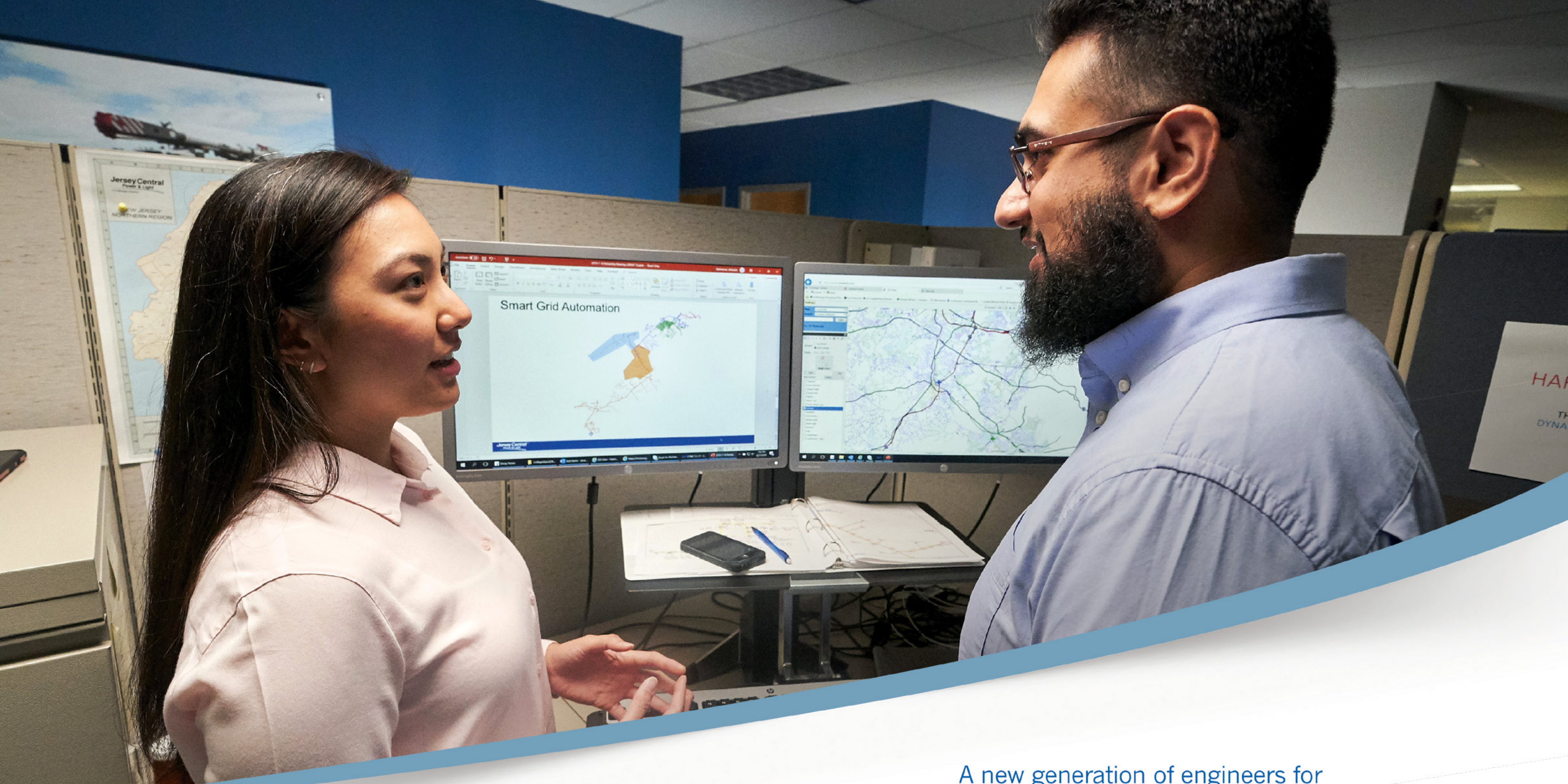
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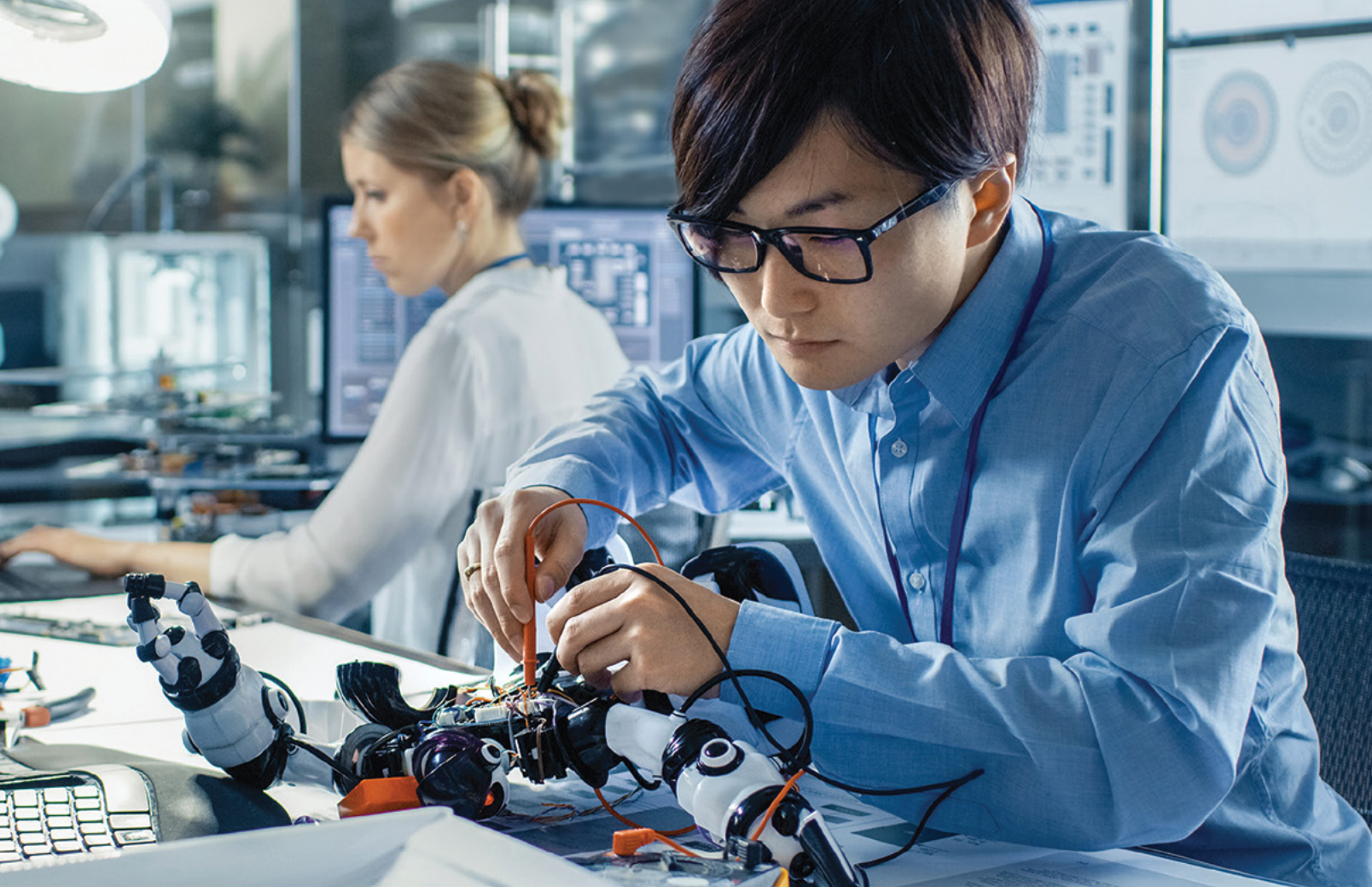
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Welcome to SASE from the CEO and Executive Director

Last year marked the return of our National Convention after the pandemic, making it a memorable experience for many of our attendees: For college participants, who started their academic journey amidst or shortly before the pandemic began, it was their first in-person conference.

Our returning attendees witnessed the debut of the Professional Conference, a program we piloted in 2018 and officially launched in 2022 for more than 600 participants. (We anticipate 700 professionals attending the conference this year!)

We are thrilled to be back in Atlanta for this year's National Convention, where our theme is "Create Connections that Inspire." This exceptional gathering unites talented individuals from all corners of the country, providing a platform for API (Asian Pacific Islander) scientists, technologists, and engineers to forge meaningful connections and exchange ideas. The convention showcases a vibrant range of workshops, panel discussions, and networking opportunities, meticulously designed to foster professional growth and leadership development. Attendees engage in thought-provoking conversations, cultivate a sense of community, and share best practices. The National Convention is a momentous occasion to celebrate achievements, encourage leadership development, and empower our API community to make a profound impact on society.

In November, SASE will celebrate its 16th anniversary. Starting with a hope and a dream in Ohio, we have grown into a national organization with aspirations of reaching even greater heights. Within the first decade, we established ourselves as the largest API organization in terms of geographic reach, number of chapters, and National Convention size. In our second decade, our vision is to

build an organization that positively impacts and makes a difference for over two million API science, technology, and engineering professionals and students.

Over the past four years, SASE has undergone a remarkable evolution. Our staff has more than doubled to enhance programming and provide robust support to our members. We have restructured our team around strategic initiatives and invested in systems and personnel to improve mission execution efficiency. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, our collegiate chapters persevered, and we now boast over 85 active chapters. This spring, we successfully hosted five in-person regional conferences across the country, attracting over 1,500 attendees.

We continue to build on the success of our National Convention, as well; in addition to the Professional Conference, we offer various programs such as webinars, cohort training, ERG (Employee Resource Group) best practice sharing, professional awards, and ERG training.

To support our national volunteers and share with them the remarkable journey of SASE, we have introduced the first National Volunteer Summit this year. As an organization, we will continue to evolve and expand to meet the needs of our community, uplifting individuals so they can achieve their full potential.

We welcome you on this journey of evolution and making connections that inspire. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our members,

“Within the first decade, we established ourselves as the largest API organization in terms of geographic reach, number of chapters, and National Convention size. In our second decade, our vision is to build an organization that positively impacts and makes a difference for over two million API science, technology, and engineering professionals and students.”
Khánh Vĩ
CEO and Executive Director

volunteers, sponsors, and the dedicated SASE staff for their invaluable support and unwavering commitment to our community. Without your tireless efforts and passion, our convention would not have blossomed into the remarkable and celebratory event it has become. I warmly welcome each and every one of you to the highly anticipated 2023 SASE National Convention. When our paths cross there or anywhere else across the U.S., please don't hesitate to reach out and say hello.

#SASEfam4Life,
Khánh Vĩ
CEO and Executive Director

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SASE 2030: Our Exciting Futures

All organizations must evolve to thrive, and SASE is doing just that. We've set high growth targets to better serve the more than 1,200,000 Asian Americans working in STEM fields, including those in the Corporate, Sponsor, Collegiate Chapter, Professional and Volunteer spaces.

We've made tremendous progress in 16 years, reflecting the progress we have made as a nation: For example, the U.S. elected its first minority President – Barack Obama – and an Asian heritage Vice President – Kamala Harris – both of whom are inspirations to the minority community. We belong, and we too can dream of achieving our full potential.

Still, there is more work to be done. At SASE, our mission is to help Asian heritage scientists and engineers achieve their full potential, and I am especially excited about our renewed focus on internal collaboration and on having fun while we achieve our goals in SASE 2030.

It's a focus that Shekhar Mitra and I shared when we founded SASE in 2007; we both had a start-up mentality that meant we were always supportive of each other, especially as we were addressing difficult and complex issues. Somewhere along the way, however, we started to feel frustrated that we were not growing as fast as we wanted, and it felt less fun. To help us return to our internal collaboration roots, we partnered with a professional training organization and, over several months, participated in interviews and discussions, team development, and executive coaching. We're already seeing terrific progress, from the Squad (staff) feeling heard and valued and everyone working together

to chart SASE's path forward. SASE's future is bright thanks to our wonderful sponsors as well as professional and student leaders.

We truly celebrate our sponsors, and we find that sponsorship is just the first step to leveraging SASE's offerings. Did you know that over 70 of SASE's current sponsors participate in SASE's cross-company employee resource group network? It's that kind of inspiration we seek, to see top leaders in our sponsor companies brainstorming and sharing best practices with our members. The relationship shared with our sponsors is not only valued by SASE, but it also helps the 1,200,000 Asian Americans in STEM more clearly identify which organizations value them.

If you are attending the National Convention as a student or job seeker, you are in the right place! You are about to attend workshops designed by these very companies followed by the largest Asian STEM Career Fair in the country. STEM leaders can work for any corporation or organization. If you are currently employed or are considering your next role, find out if the company sponsors SASE and if it has an Asian heritage employee resource group (ERG). If the answer to either is no, please reach out to me at tom.fernandez@saseconnect.org. I will ensure that SASE connects with that company to



We've made tremendous progress in 16 years, reflecting the progress we have made as a nation: For example, the U.S. elected its first minority President – Barack Obama – and an Asian heritage Vice President – Kamala Harris – both of whom are inspirations to the minority community. We belong, and we too can dream of achieving our full potential."

Thomas J. Fernandez
SASE Co-Founder and Board Secretary

illustrate how we can help America's largest minority group in STEM achieve their full potential and, in turn, positively impact the company's future trajectory.

Have a wonderful 2023 SASE National Convention!

Thomas J. Fernandez
SASE Co-Founder and Board Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President

KISHORE SUNDARARAJAN

Kishore has spent his time focused on impacting the top line, bottom line, and cash flows in his 30+ years in the Industrial Automation space across different global industry segments. He invests time in sharing these learnings by recruiting, mentoring and developing individuals, as well as building and coaching teams. Proud moments include seeing his teams go the extra mile and helping organizations succeed through tough times. His customer experience obsession, global cultural experiences, and career journey have contributed to the cultural and organizational changes he is proud to have led. Outside of work, Kishore loves spending time

with his family – especially his grandkids – eating vanilla ice cream, and vacationing on a beach. In his free time, he likes to read, learn new things, and support Asians who are developing their leadership abilities through his engagement in SASE and the Asia Society of Texas.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Vanilla ice cream
- Favorite Book:** Many favorites
- Favorite Destination:** Sydney, Australia
- Favorite Song:** Many favorites, depending on what I am feeling ...



Treasurer

TABREZ MALIK

Tabrez is a senior executive with over 20 years of global leadership and profit and loss (P&L) experience in operations, strategy, turnaround, commercial transformation, and business process improvement. He is recognized for being a change agent, strategic leader, and cross-functional leadership, and he leads through ambiguity. Tabrez is currently the vice president of finance, CFO Infrastructure Division; he previously led operations and distribution, supply chain, and logistics for Southwire Company as vice president of finance. Prior to that, he worked in diverse industry segments at General Electric and ABB in leadership roles to drive operations and

finance linkage for growth, business turnaround, and managing business in tough environments. He received the Multicultural Leadership Award as part of external recognition by the National Diversity Council. A graduate of BIT in India with a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering, Tabrez also holds a Master of Science in mechanical engineering from the State University of New York, Buffalo. He is a SASE Board member and has additional responsibilities as treasurer for SASE, leads the Finance & Audit Committee, and is part of the Executive Committee. He is based out of Atlanta, Georgia.



Co-Founder & Secretary

TOM FERNANDEZ

Tom is currently the co-founder and board secretary of SASE. He is also the co-founder and board chair of Last Mile Food Rescue, a technology and volunteer hunger-relief organization that provided \$6.5 million worth of free food in 2022 to the Cincinnati region. He previously served as a senior business advisor at Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber's Minority Business Accelerator. He was an entrepreneur with 50 employees at two franchises that he started up and sold, and he was a supply chain executive spanning a 23-year career at Procter & Gamble, holding positions of increasing responsibility in external manufacturing, chemicals, new business development, and business services. He led P&G's \$1 billion Global Energy Strategy and its Purchases Acquisition and Divestiture efforts. It was when he was the recruiting manager for P&G Product Supply that he first recognized the need for an Asian heritage technical society, which ultimately became SASE and was funded in part by P&G.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Lumpia
- Favorite Book:** The Bible
- Favorite Destination:** Florence, Italy
- Favorite Song:** MMMBop by Hanson



Board Member

SRINIVAS REDDY

Srinivas is currently the senior vice president for Procter & Gamble's Global Grooming Business, which includes some of P&G's iconic brands: Gillette, Braun, Venus, and The Art of Shaving. He is responsible for all aspects of P&G Grooming's global supply chain management, including manufacturing, engineering, procurement, planning, innovation, and quality assurance. Srinivas led the Asian American affinity network for P&G Product Supply from 2006 until 2009 and served as a member of the Asian American Leadership Team for the company. He graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he serves as the executive sponsor for P&G Recruiting. Srinivas started his career with P&G in 1990 at a manufacturing plant in Georgia as a controls engineer. Since then, he has held a variety of leadership positions in product supply and in research and development with responsibilities across product innovation, process development, capital and program management, engineering, global expansion, and supply chain management.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Chicken Biryani
- Favorite Book:** Second Machine Age
- Favorite Destination:** Any beach with no crowd and soft sand
- Favorite Song:** 80s music



Board Member

MOHAMED ALI

In October 2019, Mohamed Ali was promoted to vice president and general manager for Services Engineering. In his general manager position, he prioritized safety, delivery with the LEAP production ramp, and entry into service while driving services profitability on a \$250 billion backlog across all General Electric and partner commercial engines. He started his career with GE in 1997 and at GRC in Niskayuna as a research scientist. Mohamed has played

a significant leadership role in horizontal partnerships across the business, which has resulted in significant cost reduction and service profitability. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from Cairo University in Cairo, Egypt, and a Ph.D. in engineering from Cornell University. He lives with his family in Mason, Ohio, and outside of work is an avid runner, frequently participating in marathons. He is also an active leader in the community.

Board Member

SHWETA KURVEY-MISHRA



Shweta Kurvey-Mishra is the senior vice president and chief human resource officer for MRC Global. She is a strategic and visionary business-driven leader experienced in partnering with executives and the C-suite to drive a holistic people and culture strategy. Her experiences cut across global, diversified industries including manufacturing, distribution, logistics, automotive, medical, chemical, and environmental services, both in public and private sectors. Shweta has demonstrated success in a steadily progressive career in enterprise-wide and high-impact roles that drive value through business outcomes. Shweta has completed the Chief

Human Resource Officer Executive Education Program at the Wharton School of Business and, apart from SASE, currently serves on the University of Houston's Human Resource Development Advisory Board.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Thai and Korean
- Favorite Book:** Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don't Know by Adam Grant
- Favorite Destination:** Thailand
- Favorite Song:** Too many to list

Board Member

SONYA VIAL



Sonya Vial is currently the general manager of process development based at the Shell Technology Center in Houston, Texas. Originally from outside of New Orleans, she graduated with a chemical engineering degree from Tulane University and joined Shell shortly thereafter. In her 25+ years with Shell, she has enjoyed a variety of assignments in process engineering, operations, process safety, technology, and carbon management, including an assignment in the Netherlands. In her current role, she leads a team that de-risks, scales up, and deploys innovative processes to drive down carbon emissions, improve circularity, and deliver value. She has a passion for mentoring and coaching others and has devoted significant time to

developing others in her leadership roles and through employee resource groups.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Lasagna
- Favorite Book:** spy and mystery novels and business books, especially about leadership. A favorite is "Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard," by Chip and Dan Heath
- Favorite Destination:** The beach
- Favorite Song:** A variety of genres and time periods, including Sunday Best by Surfaces. And, as the mother of a teenage daughter, Taylor Swift!

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Collegiate Board Member Representative

RANDY HSU

Randy is serving this year as the Collegiate Board Member Representative and has been a part of SASE for over 11 years! Originally from Southern California, Randy moved to the Midwest for engineering school, and found a family away from home by joining the SASE Purdue Chapter. Through his time in SASE, Randy has formed many friendships and learned a tremendous amount about being an effective leader and a strong communicator. In his professional life, Randy is an engineer in the energy sector, working for Consumers Energy. Between his previous role in management in the food industry that has given him a wide breadth of experiences, and his various roles throughout SASE, Randy is excited to serve as a mentor to others within the organization, and to see SASE continue to grow. Randy loves to cook and eat, learn more about food science and fascinating techniques from world cultures, and also enjoys photography, travel, board and video games.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Taiwanese Pork Chop Rice 排骨飯
- Favorite Book:** Atomic Habits by James Clear
- Favorite Destination:** Taiwan
- Favorite Song:** Stop This Train by John Mayer

Professional Representative Board Member

TRACY ALLEN



Tracy Allen is a manager and human resource business partner for the Northrop Grumman Corporation. In this role, Tracy focuses on talent strategies for various engineering and business unit organizations. Tracy brings more than 15 years of business experience in finance, supply chain, and operations to programs crossing the air and space portfolio. A passionate employee resource group leader and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) advocate, she also serves on the enterprise board for Northrop Grumman's Asian Pacific Professionals Network. A Southern California native, Tracy received her undergraduate

degree and Master of Business Administration degree from California State University, Long Beach. In her spare time, Tracy enjoys the outdoors with her husband and son.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Filipino Chicken Adobo
- Favorite Book:** Daring Greatly by Brené Brown
- Favorite Destination:** Palawan Philippines
- Favorite Song:** California Love by 2Pac

Collegiate Board Member Representative (elect)

DUSTIN NGUYEN



Dustin Nguyen was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and raised in Enola by his parents, both Vietnam War refugees. He graduated from Lehigh University in 2018 with a bachelor's of science in mechanical engineering and an energy engineering minor. During his time at Lehigh, his involvement and executive board service on its SASE chapter board put him on the path to becoming a National Volunteer after graduating. That experience eventually prepared him to take a leadership role as the national convention chair and the collegiate board member representative. Currently, Dustin works as a capacity planning engineer at Atlantic City Electric. An Exelon company, it is one of six fully regulated transmission and distribution utility companies under the Exelon Corporation. He also presides as Exelon's Asian American Resource Group Pepco Holdings chapter president, overseeing DEI initiatives to promote Pan-Asian professional development, cultural, and community engagement events in Atlantic

City Electric's service territory in southern New Jersey along with two other Exelon territories, Delmarva Power in Delaware and eastern Maryland and Pepco in the greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Outside of his profession and SASE involvement, he resides in Philadelphia, where he enjoys traveling and visiting coffee shops. On the side, he is a licensed soccer match official and has officiated youth to adult amateur levels, all three NCAA divisions, and televised professional matches across the mid-Atlantic.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Pho
- Favorite Book:** The Harry Potter series
- Favorite Destination:** It's a tie between Atlanta and Boston
- Favorite Song:** Body Back by Gryffin feat. Maia Wright




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Manager of Finance and Operations

Megan Weaver
Manager of Professional Programs

Richard Grainger
Director of Organizational Relationships

Jessica Moy
Professional Programs Coordinator

Matt Diaz
Manager of Collegiate Programs

Liz Fujita
Director of Collegiate Programs

Paraag Maddiwar
Director of Professional Programs

Han Le
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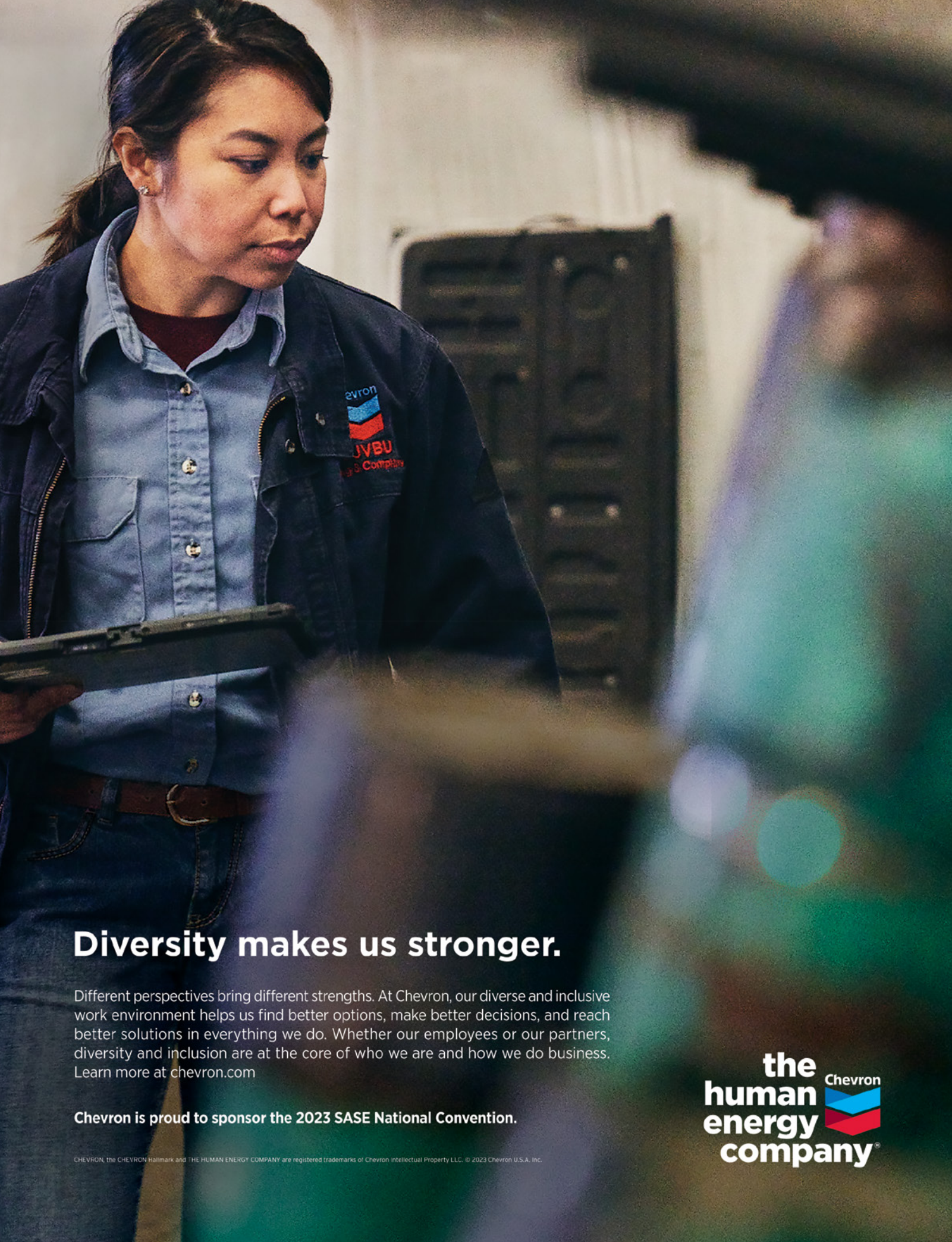
COLLEGIATE PROGRAMS

Join us in celebrating the outstanding achievements of our SASE Collegiate Chapters! They're blazing a trail toward a brighter future by nurturing the leaders of tomorrow. These remarkable chapters have orchestrated an array of captivating professional development events, equipping students with essential soft skills that will set them up for success in the careers of their dreams.



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2023 INSPIRE AWARDS

The ultimate sign of leadership is the ability to inspire, and that's exactly what these chapters do. The winners of the 2023 Inspire Awards radiate role model qualities, proven through their outstanding numbers in event attendance, membership growth, and career opportunity offers.

OVERALL STRONGEST CHAPTER

Awarded to the chapter that made outstanding contributions to and for the advancement of SASE's three core mission statements: (1) prepare Asian heritage students for success in the global business world, (2) celebrate diversity and tolerance on campuses and in the workplace, and (3) provide opportunities for its members to make contributions to their local communities.

Drexel University

"Since our founding, SASE Drexel has been committed to growing our community and uplifting our membership through the three pillars of SASE. This year, we've seen incredible numbers, with 48 pairs in our mentorship program and a total of 50 events—almost two per week.

We've strived to increase our presence and give back to our local communities: We volunteered 260 hours with local organizations like the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation and Small Things Philly, and we

were able to fundraise \$700 for Asian Americans United. To celebrate cultural diversity, we've sought to highlight and showcase more from differing cultures, with collaborations with our fellow Asian organizations on campus. We've thought outside the box with our professional events, seeking to create events that provide important skills and the knowledge to grow and succeed regarding topics such as wage negotiation, internship and job search experiences, senior design, and destigmatizing the discussion of failure.

The key to our success and growth at SASE Drexel is attributed to our community.

One of the most important aspects of any organization is its community; consider your membership, audience, and environment when planning events. Additionally, don't be afraid to collaborate with other organizations, both on and off campus! Although we strive to provide opportunity and growth to our community, collaborations bring in new faces and ideas while also creating long-lasting connections with the different communities around us.

With 327 active members, we place strong importance on creating a safe, welcoming environment for both new and old members, with plenty of opportunities to grow and learn."

HONORABLE MENTION

University of Texas at Arlington

"One of the chapter's biggest accomplishments was being selected to host the SASE South Central Regional Conference (SCRC) at UTA. SCRC 2023 was a day-long conference consisting of 11 workshops, a keynote speaker, and a STEM career fair with nine companies. With over seven months of planning in the works, we were able to raise over \$15,000 for the conference! Over 250 attended from the University of Texas at Arlington, Texas A&M University, University of Oklahoma, University of Houston, University of Texas at Austin, Louisiana State University,

University of Texas at Dallas, University of North Texas, Kansas State University, Oklahoma State University, and Lamar University. With this huge opportunity, we were able to bring the majority of the south-central chapters together to connect once again! Members were able to learn from industry professionals and from other SASE chapters. Following the conference, we received reports of job and internship offers for numerous students, as well as lots of positive feedback. This was an unforgettable experience as we faced the challenges of planning a conference; however, we

had a huge support system from the South team, our executive board, and junior officers."





MOST INFLUENTIAL CHAPTER

Awarded to the chapter that made the greatest positive influence in its community, region, and nation. Must be nominated by other chapters to be eligible for this award.

University of California, San Diego

“SASE at UC San Diego is committed to empowering our members academically and socially, providing them with opportunities to reach their full potential. Our chapter has a strong tradition of hosting successful events, and one of our most notable accomplishments was hosting the 2023 West Regional Conference (WRC). While this was a momentous task, we overcame serious logistical mishaps to ensure a successful event. During the conference, we organized professional panels and skill-building workshops on topics such as diversity, cultural awareness, personal health, and pathways to

industry and higher education. Sponsoring companies were also able to connect with attendees and provide valuable opportunities and resources.

In addition to our commitment to professional development, we also prioritize creating a supportive and inclusive community for our members. Our chapter hosts a variety of social events throughout the year, providing opportunities for members to connect and form friendships. We also offer academic support, such as hosting study groups and mentorship

programs, to ensure our members are successful in their academic pursuits.

We believe that the key to a successful chapter is building strong personal relationships among members. That’s why we prioritize social events in addition to professional development. By creating an inclusive and supportive community, SASE at UC San Diego is more than just a professional organization; it’s a family. We believe that this unique environment is what sets our chapter apart and has contributed to our continued growth and success.”

HONORABLE MENTION

University of Texas at Austin



“SASE Texas strives to create an inclusive community where individuals new to our organization or college can find a family away from home. Whether they are a STEM

major or of Asian heritage, we provide every SASE member with opportunities to develop professional skills they can use to succeed in the global business world, celebrate and appreciate diversity on campus and the workplace, and serve the people and causes in our community and beyond.

Our goals for this year were to sustain constant member engagement throughout the year and provide equitable resources for members of all majors. By constructing creative, interesting, and relevant events; strategically scheduling them; and fostering a close-knit community, our membership grew from 175 members last year to 261 paid members this year. After active and fervent outreach, 45 percent of our members are majoring in science disciplines and have

provided valuable feedback for us to better serve them. Not including sports games, brown-bag socials, or study sessions, we put on 75 events for our members this year, a significant increase from 30 events last year.

The key to our success starts with the officer team and is sustained through open lines of communication within the officer team and with members. Frequent, effective communication and collaboration help to establish expectations for the group and foster a productive and comfortable work environment, which translates into a well-run organization that members can benefit from academically, professionally, and socially.”

OUTSTANDING NEW CHAPTER

Awarded to the chapter that was founded within the last two years and already has made outstanding contributions to and for the advancement of SASE’s three core mission statements: (1) prepare Asian heritage students for success in the global business world, (2) celebrate diversity and tolerance on campuses and in the workplace, and (3) provide opportunities for its members to make contributions to their local communities.

University of Calgary

“As the first Canadian chapter of SASE, our focus this past year has been on encouraging UCalgary students to become active members of their community. Despite being a commuter school, we were able to increase our membership rate by at least 10 percent following each event. Our strategy was to host a variety of events that catered to a broad audience, which allowed us to extend our reach in the community.

We organized a large professional event and a smaller, more casual networking and mentorship information session, which engaged roughly 40 students. We were successful in connecting students with local and international industry professionals of Asian heritage as mentees. We also tried to be strategic with our social events, given our status as a commuter school. We hosted an online trivia night and an origami night in collaboration with another club, which successfully raised \$264 for a Canadian

charity that helps impoverished families in Pakistan and was founded by a UofC alumna. In terms of our impact beyond the community, we aimed to connect our members with other SASE chapters regionally and nationally via Discord activities. We shared our experiences with UNM and encouraged our members to attend the West Regional Conference, and we even connected with the USCD SASE chapter to host a gaming night together in the spirit of a sister chapter event.

Our most successful event was the Resume/ LinkedIn Workshop, which had the best member turnout we had ever seen, resulting in a 26 percent increase in membership afterward. We planned for this event for six months, ensuring that it was well-advertised and that the attendees received useful tips. From this event, we learned a lot about organizing an event and fostering better relationships with our sponsors, which eventually helped us gain more mentorship program participants.”



HONORABLE MENTION

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

“The past year has been a significant milestone for the Embry-Riddle SASE chapter in recruitment, collaborations, fundraising, and professional development. We had 10 total events and an average member attendance of 10 people last year; this year, we had 19 events and have grown our average member attendance to 23 people! Our chapter had our first collaborations with UCF SASE, ERAU SHPE, and ERAU SWE for a beach day, a OneBlood volunteer event, and International Women’s Day tabling, respectively. These events helped us learn more about other organizations, better advertise our chapter, and gain new members in the process. Our chapter also had a profitable fundraiser selling dumplings and boba, where we made four times the amount of money we spent on materials. For a second fundraiser, we sold paneer biryani and orange

Tang, and we made three [times] more than we spent. Additionally, we hosted several professional events, including an internship panel and a resume review with SASE alumni to help our members prepare for SERC. Overall, our chapter has grown exponentially due to balanced educational and social events and our efforts in strengthening connections with other diverse organizations on campus. Tabling for fundraisers and consistently posting on Instagram have also significantly increased our chapter’s exposure. The most valuable tip our chapter can give to newly developing chapters is to elect passionate, caring individuals to leadership positions. Having an executive board with driven officers who are devoted to building a strong community will be a major catalyst for your organization’s success.”



MOST IMPROVED CHAPTER

Awarded to the chapter that displayed the greatest growth, change, and improvement over the past academic year.

University of Florida

“In the 2022-2023 year, the UF Chapter of SASE innovated and optimized every aspect of our organization, growing from approximately 90 to over 350 active members in the process. This culminated in our recognition as being one of four finalists for the University of Florida Student Organization of the Year 2022-2023. In this past year, we’ve established a semesterly Career Fair Prep week consisting of three events: We started a SASE Sports Program that has grown to consist of 48 intramural teams, weekly casual sports events, and multiple E-Sports tournaments. We’ve created an interdisciplinary design team, ‘SASE Engineering Team (SET),’ that allows members to develop their technical skills. We’ve introduced a new SASE Interns Program structure that provided leadership opportunities for 120 Interns. Finally, we re-imagined our online presence, redesigned our website and Instagram, and implemented social media initiatives such as reels and blogs that increased the number of visitors to our website in the past year to over 2,000 and our Instagram following from 800 to 1,517. In the 2022-2023 year, 109 UF SASE members received offers for research, full-time, or internship positions.



Our SASE chapter has been successful because our board members are extremely passionate in creating a safe, loving, and welcoming community where all resources and members are easily accessible, setting our members up for success in all aspects of their college experience. We provide opportunities that cater to people of all interests and majors, letting our members

and their specific needs dictate our direction, rather than the executive board deciding. Many of the new initiatives we described started off as suggestions from our members, which we worked on to make realities. Our advice to growing chapters is to listen to your members. Growth comes from connections made on a personal level—not a marketing campaign.”

HONORABLE MENTION

Arizona State University



“Our chapter has made substantial progress throughout the academic year in terms of membership growth, leadership development, events, and chapter finances. Since the pandemic, our chapter has made huge strides in giving our members opportunities.

Since last year, we have increased our events by 124 percent, from 37 to 46 events held within a single academic year, by providing our members the opportunity to get involved through general body meetings, socials, professional development, industry, community service, networking, tabling, fundraisers, and conferences. For the first time, we held two fundraisers, earning \$100+ from each. We nearly doubled in tabling for the organization, volunteering 25+ hours to support the mission of SASE and promote the chapter. We have 35 active members in our chapter this year, 15 more than last year.

We are known as one of the largest contingents to attend the West Regional Conference and National Convention (NC). This year, we attended both conferences, bringing 50+

members between the two. During the NC, members placed third and won ‘best new hack’ in the Hackathon. Among the 20+ members who attended the career fair, 26 had interviews and nine received offers of internships and full-time job opportunities, a historic high for our chapter.

In terms of finances, our goal was to obtain funds from the school and through sponsorships to maximize our funded members to the conference. In total, we were able to allocate \$7.1k for the NC and \$4,000 for the West Regional Conference. Through our fundraisers and additional promotional activities, we increased the money in our bank account by 128 percent. Another improvement was the tripling of the number of candidates who ran for office – 15 candidates compared to five from last year.”



MOST PHILANTHROPIC CHAPTER

Awarded to the chapter that demonstrated and embodied the greatest spirit of service within its chapter, community, region, and nation.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

“Founded in 2019, SASE UTK is the first Asian-interest pre-professional organization on campus. Our chapter was the recipient of Outstanding New Chapter in the 2020-2021 school year due to its resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have greatly expanded this year, almost doubling our active membership. Our chapter has implemented internal opportunities like a mentoring program and executive board shadowing program, both of which could only exist due to this membership boost.

Most of our members are first to third years, which means that we can continue to impact them and foster their cultural, professional,

and philanthropic development during their collegiate years. This year, our ratio of male-to-female members is around 4:6, with a ratio of male-to-female officers at 2:5. Our recruitment conversion rate also greatly increased from the year prior. This was due to the enthusiastic marketing and programming efforts of the executive board, who planned almost four times the number of events.

Despite being a historically engineering-centric student organization, approximately 30 percent of this year’s members are science majors, typically studying some biology-associated field. Our executive board has better representation as well, as there are double the number of

officers majoring in science compared to last year. To accompany this, our chapter has also made a number of connections to provide better opportunities for science majors, including Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Eastman Chemical Company.

Over the current year, the SASE UTK chapter has grown in size, diversity, and complexity. We hope to continue this development in the future and support our members as they pursue success in their fields. Our tip for other chapters is to go all out with event planning in the fall semester and to table loudly! Membership grows when your energy is high.”

HONORABLE MENTION

Stevens Institute of Technology

“Since its establishment in 2012, SASE Stevens has always strived to provide a supportive community for their members to reach their full career potential. Our chapter aims to spread the three core values of SASE – professionalism, community, and diversity/culture – through biweekly general body meetings and monthly events. In these meetings, we discuss the dos and don’ts of resume writing to networking with fellow professionals to how ice cream is made with just ice and salt.

From a small school located on the Hudson River, SASE Stevens has one of the largest active membership bases in the Northeast and proudly stands as a veteran chapter in the region. We believe our strength comes



from our community and our priority in making sure that every member feels at home. Our advice for a successful chapter

is to create a healthy, supportive, and welcoming community where people can grow and think innovatively.”

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2023 SASE SCHOLARSHIPS



“Coming from a family that does not work in the STEM industry, and as a woman in STEM, I feel the pressure to do everything necessary to succeed. I work three jobs and have three E-Board positions, all while maintaining my grades and keeping good relations with my peers. The pressure to be perfect and financially stable is stressful, and this scholarship will allow me to focus more on things I want to do—not things I need to do.” — *Alyson Zhang, Stevens Institute of Technology*

Congratulations to our 2023 SASE Recipients

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Justin Wai-Hin Lin
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Florida State University

Alyson Zhang
Stevens Institute of Technology

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2023 REGIONAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

West Regional Conference
Hosted by SASE at UC San Diego

COLLEGIATE PROGRAMS



West Regional Conference (WRC) – University of California San Diego

BASK IN THE SUNLIGHT

About The Theme

Inspired by the conference's location in sunny California, SASE's recent spotlight on mental health via the SASE Mental Health Initiative, and schools transitioning back to an in-person format, we chose the theme of "Bask in the Sunlight." With the beach only a mile away from campus and the sun always shining in San Diego, we wanted to give students an opportunity to take a moment and focus on themselves, especially in such a "grindset"-oriented society. We also hosted a series of workshops that focused on this theme, such as our yoga workshop, our dumpling-making workshop that gave students a break from networking and professional workshops, and our "fun" elevator pitch workshop that allowed students to take time to collaborate to problem-solve an imaginary scenario and get to know each other.

What Made It Special

We wanted to host workshops with unique topics, address gaps in knowledge within the professional space, provide resources for underrepresented communities within SASE – primarily those majoring in the biological or physical sciences – and have more "advanced" workshops that go beyond "Interview Tips" or "How to Make a Resume." Our final schedule of workshops was diverse with new topics ranging from project management, which can be applied to every and any field, to the transition from an undergrad to industry to UX Design, which is not typically covered when discussing topics in tech.

A Memorable Moment

The beginning of the day, when everyone was checking into the conference! The team had been working on planning the conference for so long, so to experience everything coming together felt like a dream to us. We were so happy that the attendees were excited to see the campus, pick up their merch, and network with other chapters. It really set the tone for the rest of the day.



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Northeast Regional Conference (NERC) – Boston, MA

BROADEN YOUR BRANCHES

About The Theme

The Northeast Region is the largest region of SASE with record-breaking attendance numbers at previous NERCs. This year's NERC Planning Team was determined to make the first return to in-person conferences be a time to foster inter-chapter relations and rebuild lost connections. The team leaned into environmental themes, in contrast to prior years' themes surrounding engineering/technology, to encompass their mission of encouraging science and sustainable communities. NERC was able to embody this year's theme by offering students opportunities to network in response to student feedback from previous years, and the NERC Planning Team replaced the last section of workshops for "professional networking rooms" that sparked conversations around different SASE values such as navigating personal/professional post-graduation life and exploring our cultural roots while developing our own new blended traditions. Having all-day open fundraising tables, resume rooms/group resume sessions, the career fair, and scheduling more free time

between itinerary sections also provided attendees an opportunity to broaden their networks professionally and personally.

What Made It Special

It was our first in-person conference planned by students and alumni from universities across the Northeast Region, as opposed to a singular chapter hosting. Additionally, there was a passion to create a sustainable volunteer pipeline within the region, giving opportunities to those in the Northeast to build their dedicated efforts to the larger SASE community. With the Northeast being such a large region, the valued efforts of this diverse team really shone through NERC 2023, and this model set the stage for the new year of excitement and increased active participation of chapters throughout the region.

The Biggest Challenge

No one on the team actually had experience planning an *in-person conference specifically*; very few members had planned for virtual NERC



or attended pre-pandemic NERCs, but no one really knew the reality of how an in-person conference is processed from start to finish. From budgeting for speakers and workshops to acquiring sponsors to marketing outreach to simple logistics such as name tag distribution, the NERC Planning Team was challenged to develop creative solutions to address the realities of in-person conferences. However, the new and unique solutions to these challenges ultimately paid off as attendees remarked that it was an incredibly memorable NERC and overall college experience for them. From new and applicable professionalism workshop content to silly and fun relay games during breaks, students said the best part of NERC 2023 was that they really did get to "Broaden their Branches" and understand the breadth of what it means to be part of a larger SASEFam!



South Central Regional Conference (SCRC) – The University of Texas at Arlington

START YOUR JOURNEY

About The Theme

We wanted our conference theme to be a relatable word that all university students could connect with as they navigate their career paths. The phrase "Start Your Journey" emphasizes our mission to create an environment where students can interact with potential employers and explore exciting opportunities. The rocket logo adds a STEM twist while also symbolizing the idea of taking off toward success. Our eye-catching color scheme of black, white, and red was a way to ensure our logo stands out from the crowd. The

conference provided a platform for students from all years and different universities to connect with like-minded peers in their respective fields and stand out to recruiters. It relates to the theme of START your journey, because it offers attendees a chance to expand their knowledge in diverse areas and take the first steps towards potential career paths.

conference served as a significant learning experience for our team as we navigated the planning process through trial and error, improvising along the way, and being creative with our designs.

What Made It Special

It was the first event organized by UTA since 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This

A Memorable Moment

Witnessing its successful execution and receiving positive feedback from attendees and higher-ups was incredible. Despite the months of stressful planning and execution, the experience of seeing everything come together and the joy it brought to our attendees made it all worthwhile.

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Southeast Regional Conference (SERC) – University of Central Florida

IGNITE THE SPARK

What Made It Special

Our attendees' eagerness to explore career opportunities, engage in insightful conversations, and showcase their exceptional skills made this conference the huge success that it was. Their enthusiasm and dedication are a testament to their commitment toward personal and professional growth, and we were proud to host them!

We would also like to express our heartfelt appreciation to the companies that generously shared their time, knowledge, and resources to host insightful workshops. Your commitment to fostering talent and providing valuable guidance is commendable. The workshops served as invaluable platforms for learning, networking, and gaining a deeper understanding of various industries, while your dedication to nurturing

the next generation of professionals is truly inspiring. It is through all of our participants' active participation and support that we are able to create such vibrant and dynamic environments for career exploration and development.

Midwest Regional Conference (MWRC) – University of Dayton

CULTIVATE YOUR ROOTS

About The Theme

We find roots to be where we came from, the environment we were raised in, and the culture which makes us who we are and strive to be. The work we do, the art we create, and the connections we make reflect the beauty of the roots that began with the culture before us. Our goal at this conference was to help students develop their roots as they grow in the professional world. We also tied the theme into our decor, marketing/merchandise, workshops, and service projects, which were themed around nature, sustainability, and progress.

What Made It Special

The fact that this conference took a pivot and was organized within 10 weeks was a feat in and of itself. This conference really celebrated every part of the region, from our chapter's active participation to honoring our current and past regional volunteers to commending our conference hosts. Additionally, we were probably one of the first to have a conference mascot (The Bookworm!) and



had fun snacks and prizes for our guests to enjoy. Furthermore, the advantage of having the entire conference in one central location allowed attendees to enjoy the space fully and not have to worry about transit to other buildings across campus to attend their desired workshops or conference-day events.

A Memorable Moment

With respect to the University of Dayton's unofficial slogan—"We Believe in the Power

of Community"—the community was the best part about this conference. Bringing together 130+ attendees to the first in-person regional conference after the COVID-19 pandemic really reignited the passion that our chapters and volunteers share for SASE. For many, this was their first time attending any SASE conference (including the UD students hosting!), so it reset the potential for what Midwest Regional Conferences can be in the future.



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 2016 - 2023

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REBECCA CHO
 VOLUNTEER RESOURCES
 2018 - 2023

"I STARTED VOLUNTEERING FOR SASE NATIONAL CONVENTION AS A WAY TO FEEL CONNECTED TO THE LARGER SASE COMMUNITY DURING THE PANDEMIC AND REPRESENT MY CHAPTER (UCSBI). I'VE ALWAYS LOVED PUTTING ON EVENTS THAT BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER AND CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHERS."



ZOE IMANSJAH
 SASE NC VOLUNTEER
 2021 - 2023

"I'VE BEEN PART OF THE VOLUNTEER RESOURCES TEAM (ORIGINALLY HUMAN RESOURCES) FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS. I'M SO GLAD I MET MY TEAM AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS BECAUSE OF THE PASSION THAT WE SHARE. I'VE GAINED A LOT OF LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AS WELL WHICH TRANSLATED INTO MY CAREER WHERE I CAN BE TEAM ORIENTED AND ALSO INDEPENDENT."



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2023 LEADERSHIP AWARDS

SASE is proud to announce **Rakesh Aneja** with Daimler Truck North America as SASE Pro's Distinguished Career Award winner for 2023.



Rakesh Aneja is a proactive, empathetic, and inclusive leader at Daimler Truck North America (DTNA). As the Vice President and Chief of eMobility, he brings 25+ years of experience from multiple business units and countries. Rakesh is innovative in both pushing the limits in technology for a sustainable future, as well as in building a more diverse and inclusive workforce. His dedication to the STEM field in the company and in his community is unmatched: Rakesh champions several Employee Business Resource Groups (EBRGs), is an active member of DTNA's Diversity Council, and is a Board Chair of the Downtown Boxing Gym in Detroit. A strong believer in giving back to his community, Rakesh has been involved for six years with

the boxing gym, which seeks to empower Detroit students to be positive and productive members of society by providing free academic and athletic programs for students ages 8-18 with continuing mentorship through age 25. Throughout his career, Rakesh has continually invested time, energy, passion, and resources in both his working teams as well as the EBRGs he sponsors. Rakesh is a trusted and humble leader who leads by example every day. His desire to elevate those who are under-represented and to build a strong foundation for future generations will continue to prime DTNA, its employees, and the communities in which he works for future success. His impact on his people, the company, and his community are long-lasting and felt by all.

SASE is proud to announce **Lucia Chung** with The Boeing Company as SASE Pro's Executive of the Year Award winner for 2023.



Lucia Chung is a Boeing executive who is dedicated to improving the world around her by contributing to her profession, her community and the next generation. After a varied career in engineering and management, she is now Vice President of Engineering and Product Support within Boeing Information Technology and leads delivery of digital capabilities for engineering and product support across Boeing. Her \$500 million portfolio and 1,500 team members influence \$1 billion in investments. She is also active in a variety of activities, ranging from mentoring students and professionals to supporting the AAPI community to working toward diversity, equity and inclusion. Lucia joined Boeing in 2004 as part of a leadership rotation program

and during her 18 years at Boeing has had 13 different job assignments with steadily increasing responsibilities in multiple functions, including Quality, Supply Chain, Manufacturing, Program Management, Strategy, Engineering, and Information Technology & Data Analytics. She is the Enterprise President of the Boeing Asian and Pacific Association (BAPA) Business Resource Group, with around 3,000 members companywide, and a member of the Boeing Equity and Inclusion Council. She participates in Boeing, BAPA and independent activities in schools and other institutions to encourage STEM participation and mentor young people. Lucia has been a keynote speaker at the SASE Women's Leadership Conference and a panelist at the SWE National Conference.

SASE is proud to announce **Roy Donelson** with RTX as SASE Pro's Executive of the Year Award winner for 2023.



Roy Donelson is the Chief Executive for the RTX Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Group for Raytheon Missiles & Defense (RMD), a Raytheon Technologies company. He is responsible for the operations of Raytheon defense subsidiaries and country offices, program execution, and the delivery of advanced sensors to effect solutions for customers in this region. Prior to his current role, Roy was the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the RTX MENA Group. He is a recipient of the Raytheon Missile Systems (RMS) President's Individual Award for Leadership, the RTX Program Leadership Award. He earned RMS Leadership Honors as one of the Top 20 leaders in RMS after being nominated by peers and employees for

outstanding leadership. Roy is a past president of the RTX Asian Pacific Association (RAPA) ERG at RMS. He is now a champion for the RTX Asian Pacific Islander Resource Group (RTX SPIRES). He was an executive sponsor for innovation projects, STEM initiatives, and mentoring and employee resource groups at RTX UK. Roy has been the Past President of the International Council on Systems Engineering (Southern Arizona Chapter). In 2020, he earned a SASEsalutes Career Service Award and is a member of the SASE military awards committee. He serves as the RTX lead for the SASE Pro Executive Forum and participated in multiple industry panel sessions on diversity for SASE.

SASE is proud to announce **Catherine Ordun** with Booz Allen Hamilton as SASE Pro's Information Technologist of the Year Award winner for 2023.



As a Booz Allen data scientist, Catherine uses data to question existing processes and find solutions to complex problems. Catherine's innate curiosity, paired with degrees in biology and public health, led her to explore how diverse and unstructured data can have broad impacts on national health outcomes and policies. Catherine builds machine learning and natural language processing models and leads teams for defense and health clients, including the U.S. Army, Veterans Affairs' Veterans Experience Office, the Food & Drug Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She also aided in the development of the National Health Security Preparedness Index which measures the nation's state of health security and preparedness.

Surprisingly, it was music that first inspired Catherine to pursue a technical field. "I've played classical violin since I was eight. When I was 13, I auditioned for the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra with a very ambitious piece," says Catherine. "I was intimidated by the concerto, but my teacher taught me to go slowly and methodically, measure by measure, moving up the metronome very slowly over a long period of time. I auditioned and got the highest chair out of all violinists that year. I learned that, with determination and patience, something seemingly impossible and complex can be broken down into manageable parts."



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saseconnect.org/events/2023-it-hack



SASE is proud to announce Dr. Colin Li Pi Shan with Dow as SASE Pro's Engineer/Scientist of the Year (Company) Award winner for 2023.



Colin has an exemplary track record for award-winning innovation and people development. Building on his external publications, Colin published a book chapter in *Advances in Plastics Bonding* (Elsevier), coauthored six conference presentations, and was granted five U.S. patents. Colin is an R&D Fellow for Dow's Packaging and Specialty Plastics and received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in chemical engineering from Queen's University, Ontario, Canada, and his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Colin joined Dow in 2002 and is responsible for the global strategic development of

olefin elastomers, thermosets, polyolefin adhesive and olefin block copolymers. Colin is a world subject matter expert for polyolefin microstructure design to support catalyst discovery, material science, and product and application development. Colin has made outstanding contributions to elastomer science and technology in the development of thermoplastic elastomers, olefin block copolymers, and EPDM polymers. His development contributions have pioneered the use of polyolefin elastomers in the global transportation, infrastructure and consumer industries, as well.



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SASE is proud to announce Tao Jen with Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory as SASE Pro's Engineer/Scientist of the Year (Government) Award winner for 2023.

Tao Jen joined the Asymmetric Operations Sector (AOS) at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) in 2003, and he is now a Principal Professional Staff member—APL's most senior designation. Tao supervises AOS's Critical Infrastructure Protection Group, overseeing 60 staff members. As a group leader at APL, he is responsible for a range of critical business functions, including group strategy, sponsor engagement, business forecasting, research and development (R&D) planning, performance coaching, and hiring. Tao engages with APL program managers to understand prospective sponsor challenges and relays that message to his staff to focus on research and develop solutions. Willing to bet big on his staff, Tao commits large amounts of his resources to bolster independent R&D

project dollars in pursuit of ideas to help solve the important challenges of our nation. Coaching and development activities are key to Tao's group; despite the many demands on his time, he meets routinely with everyone and works closely with his line supervisors to develop objectives for each staff member. Tao's research group often leads APL in hiring summer interns because he believes it is an opportunity for students to gain valuable technical and leadership experience. Tao is a well-respected technical authority on networking technologies, communication systems, and infrastructure cybersecurity. He is a strong leader at APL and in his respective communities of practice and has shown tremendous commitment to APL, his staff and our nation's critical missions.



SASE is proud to announce Dr. Tony Torng with The Boeing Company as SASE Pro's Service Impact Award winner for 2023.



Tony Torng, Ph.D., is a Boeing Technical Fellow and nationally recognized expert in Probabilistic Analysis and Design (PAD), especially for aging aircraft risk assessment. His major responsibilities include directing and managing research and development projects, leading advanced technology development, and performing technical work. Equally important, he is an enthusiastic and tireless volunteer, representing AAPI in the aerospace industry, education and the community. Dr. Torng was born in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, where his father was a naval officer and his mother cared for him and his older siblings. During his career, he has been granted one patent, filed three patent disclosures, and written

more than 98 technical papers. He lives his belief that AAPI people should be visible as community leaders and role models. At the professional level, he frequently serves in efforts that support the engineering profession – specifically AAPI engineers. One of Dr. Torng's most visible roles is as an elected member and current and past president of the Walnut Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees. His prior work in AAPI equity and STEM education led him to run for the school board so that he could influence more young AAPI students and their parents. He is the only AAPI member of the board and frequently engages with students, staff and parents.

SASE is proud to announce Kristen Lee with RTX as SASE Pro's Advocate Award winner for 2023.

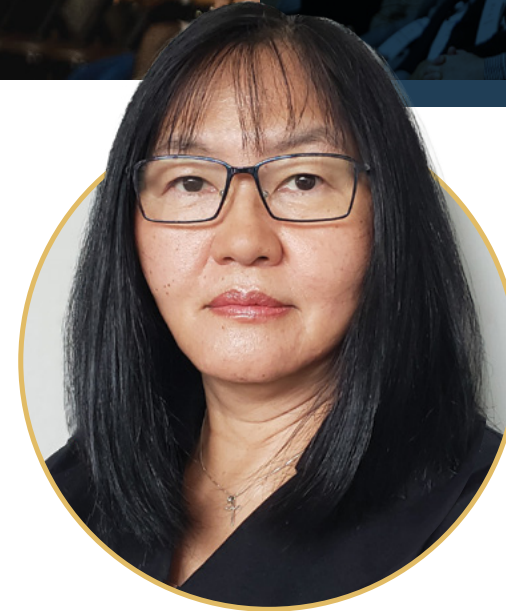


Kristen Lee is a Principal Mechanical Engineer in the Air Frames, Radar Structures and Advanced Materials (ASM) directorate at RTX Missiles & Defense (RMD), a business of RTX. She is currently the Program Integrator for one of the National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System (NASAMSTM) international programs, in which she integrates and coordinates engagement between the Program Management Office (PMO) with Integrated Product Team (IPT), Engineering, Finance, Contracts, Operations, Global Supply Chain, Mission Assurance, and Global Trade leaders and team members. She is also a Jurisdiction and Classification Determination Subject Matter Expert

with focus on NASAMS programs. She was awarded the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE) Emerging Leader of the Year Award in 2016 and is currently the Professional Development Lead on the RTX ASPIRES Global Enterprise Board, where she promotes leadership and career development programs and events, member recognition, and across the enterprise. She is the ERG Lead for the RTX Skills Enhancement and Employee Development (SEED) program, which was developed by Kristen and a team of ERG leaders from late 2020 through 2021, piloted in 2022, and was part of the RTX Corporate DE&I Leadership programs in 2023.



SASE is proud to announce Celia Furukawa with 3M as SASE Pro's Advocate Award winner for 2023.



Celia Furukawa is a Senior Technical Product Development Supervisor for 3M HISD (Health Information System Division) under the Healthcare Business Group. She is a dedicated engineering manager who cares about customers' satisfaction, and her focus is to deliver a reliable product for 3M's customers. In her role, she manages a team that aids the success of the main product for her division. Celia is detail-oriented, and she has served on the Release Review Board (RRB) for the past three years, assessing risks and evaluating the readiness of product releases. Her contributions led to better customer satisfaction. She successfully

managed the releases of multiple versions of the backend services in the Cloud during her 6+ years at 3M HISD. Celia successfully built a new team of performance engineers and created new processes to ensure the software is scalable and meets customer's performance demands. Outside of work, Celia volunteers and gives back by helping provide professional development opportunities for her peers in 3M. She advocates for underrepresented groups in the community and at work, serving for over seven years to help with social justice and volunteering in many events in her community.

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2023 SASE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Career Achievements (22+)

- Dr. Ajit Apte**
Exelon
- Frances Araujo**
Daimler Truck North America
- Rakesh Bahadur**
3M
- Dr. Xuefeng Bai**
Leidos
- Dr. Yin Bao**
MITRE
- Dr. Tony Belcher**
The Boeing Company
- Sheetal Brahmabhatt**
MITRE
- Jully Chung**
Booz Allen Hamilton
- Saeed Elahi**
Tenable
- Yogita Gidh**
SHELL
- Dr. Yuhsin Hawig**
Southwire
- Dr. Danhong Huang**
Air Force Research Laboratory
- Mrinal Iyengar**
BAE Systems, Inc
- TJ Kim**
Burns & McDonnell
- Dr. Vishal Kochar**
Wabtec
- David K. Lee**
Northrop Grumman Corporation
- Dixon Lee**
Southwire
- Steve Lee**
Tenable
- Sung Lee**
RTX
- Dr. Zi (Lucy) Liu,**
Bayer Crop Science

- George Lu**
BAE Systems, Inc
- Dr. Wen Masters**
MITRE
- Dr. Yen Matsutomi**
Blue Origin
- Sanghamitra Mukherjee**
Wabtec
- Tiffany On**
SHELL
- Lizy Paul**
Lockheed Martin
- Nishad Prabhu**
Textron
- Dr. Preethi Pratap**
RTX
- Dr. Muralidhar Rangaswamy**
Air Force Research Laboratory
- Dr. YuanQiao Rao**
Dow
- Nilesh Sivaramakrishnan**
Southwire
- Katy Tam**
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.
- Steven Tang**
Leidos
- Kevin Tow**
GE Aerospace
- Rong Wang**
Bayer Crop Science
- Dr. Dengen Zhou**
Chevron

Professional Achievements (10+)

- Kiran Ambre**
Tenable
- Michael Bai**
GE Aerospace
- Johnny Barnachea**
Daimler Truck North America

- Manish Bhasin**
BASF CORP
- Jess Borries**
Burns & McDonnell
- Ying Cao**
Eaton
- Dr. Yenming Chen**
Northrop Grumman Corporation
- Thomas Chiang**
Textron
- Jen Choi**
MITRE
- Jayna Dellatan**
Daimler Truck North America
- Rosemary Sacris Divitotawela**
Missile Defense Agency
- Dr. Patrick Feng**
Sandia National Laboratories
- Tanushri Jain**
Dow
- Samad Javid**
3M
- Wing Kuang**
Booz Allen Hamilton
- Jhelum Naik**
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.
- Dr. Vinod Natarajan**
SHELL
- Dzuy Nguyen**
Lockheed Martin
- Dr. Qihong Nie**
3M
- Anirudh Paduru**
Exelon
- Anant Patel**
RTX
- Vipul Patel**
Carrier
- Tony Pham**
Lockheed Martin
- Aekaluck Phanmanivong**
Leidos

- Aris Vincent Picardo**
HII
- Reema Pothireddi**
Southwire
- Lalu Prasad**
Wabtec
- Jimmy Quach**
BAE Systems, Inc
- Vincent Siu**
Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific
- Dr. Jennifer To**
Bayer Crop Science
- Stephanie Trentadue**
Lockheed Martin
- Dr. Xiaoxi Wang**
The Boeing Company
- Joan Wijatno**
Burns & McDonnell
- Dr. Yaofan Yi**
Chevron

Promising Professional (2-10 yrs)

- Dr. Kang Jun Bai**
Air Force Research Laboratory
- Priya Ball**
Blue Origin
- Michele Berry**
Booz Allen Hamilton
- Siddangoud Biradar**
Eaton
- Dr. Mia Brockman**
BAE Systems, Inc
- Terena Chao**
Leidos
- Jimmy Chen**
Textron
- Julia Eng**
The Aerospace Corporation,
- Zihui (Vicky) Gao**
SHELL
- Dr. Erjia Guan**
Chevron
- Dr. Thushara Gunda**
Sandia National Laboratories
- Russ Huang**
Textron
- Girija Priya Katragadda**
BASF CORP
- Megan Kim**
Northrop Grumman Corporation
- Monica Kim**
The Aerospace Corporation
- Rubbel Kumar**
Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory
- Paul Le**
The Aerospace Corporation

- Simon Lee**
Tenable
- Dr. Liang-Chun Liu**
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.
- Rong Lu**
bp
- Lyon Ngo**
Daimler Truck North America
- Dustin Nguyen**
Exelon
- James Nguyen**
RTX
- Dr. Cindy Pham**
Northrop Grumman Corporation
- Dr. Arjun Rao**
The Boeing Company
- Diana Ren**
Tenable
- Abhijith Santhoshkumar**
Lockheed Martin
- Zachary Saucier**
HII
- Shazif Shaikh**
GE Aerospace
- Stephanie Song**
3M
- Sarah Thomas**
HII
- Danny Tsang**
The Aerospace Corporation
- Vivian Young**
BNSF Railway
- Sophia Yu**
Blue Origin
- Charles Yun**
The Aerospace Corporation
- Jerry Zhang**
HII
- Dr. Russell Zhao**
Chevron

Technical, Research and Business Achievement

- Ramim Alam**
Leidos
- Steven Chen**
Eaton
- Kedar Kayal**
GE Aerospace
- Dr. Deyuan Kong**
Chevron
- Katrina Meyer**
Booz Allen Hamilton
- Dr. Kittikorn Ngampungpis**
Dow
- Carissa Pajel**
The Boeing Company

- Dr. Khanh Pham**
Air Force Research Laboratory
- Ashok Shastri**
SHELL
- Sandeep Singla**
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.
- Dr. Abhishek Srivastava**
3M
- Eranda Wanigasekara**
BASF CORP
- Dr. Dan Wu**
Dow
- Xin Zhou**
Eaton

ERG Leadership Achievement

- Fatina Brave**
HII
- Dr. Deboleena Chakraborty**
Dow
- Stephanie Curulewski**
bp
- Varsha Ganapathy**
The Boeing Company
- Alicia Jose**
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Alisha Kalb**
GE Aerospace
- Bob Klannukarn**
MITRE
- Chris Lin**
bp
- Eileen Linder**
Daimler Truck North America
- Pooja Mediratta**
bp
- Maria Morgan**
RTX
- Prachi Parikh**
BASF CORP
- Dr. Kristy Salmon**
bp
- Denise Shinto**
BNSF Railway
- Ella Short**
Booz Allen Hamilton
- Swetambri Sinha**
Naval Nuclear Laboratory
- Nirmal Dominica Vas**
Eaton
- Dr. Jenny-Marie Wong**
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.
- Xinxin Zhang**
BASF CORP



Distinguished Career Service **AWARD**

EDWIN H. OSHIBA
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
Energy, Installations & Environment

The recipient of this award exemplifies leadership and service that goes above and beyond and is deserving of the SASEsalutes' highest honor. Distinguished Career Service Award honorees have obtained significant military achievements, and their influence transcends the workplace through their leadership and mentorship.

Mr. Ed Oshiba became a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) after a decorated, 25-year Active Duty career in the Air Force. In his current role, Mr. Oshiba is responsible for plans, policies, programs and budgets for Air Force installations, energy, environment, safety and occupational health objectives. With oversight of energy optimization, climate mitigation, and a vast environmental portfolio, Mr. Oshiba has a renewed appreciation for the 'āina – a value he remembers from growing up in Hawaii, where stewardship of land and natural resources is highly regarded.

Growing up in Hawaii as a third-generation Japanese American, Mr. Oshiba was shaped by other cultural values, as well, including a strong work ethic and a deep respect for elders. He was aware that many extended family members served in the military and garnered valuable life lessons from their experience. During senior year of high school, Mr. Oshiba's father urged him to pursue opportunities beyond the comfort of his immediate surroundings in Hawaii. He began exploring military scholarships and secured an Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship for Santa Clara University, and while he didn't foresee that he was setting a path for a successful military professional career, he would eventually command three civil engineer squadrons, command an expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force (or Prime BEEF), and serve at Headquarters U.S. Air Force levels. Mr.

Oshiba's hard work, connection to the mission and deep respect for mentors has kept him motivated through his military service toward the highest levels of Air Force leadership as a DoD civilian.

We sat down with Ed for some additional questions; here is what he shared:

Tell us about some memorable duty stations.

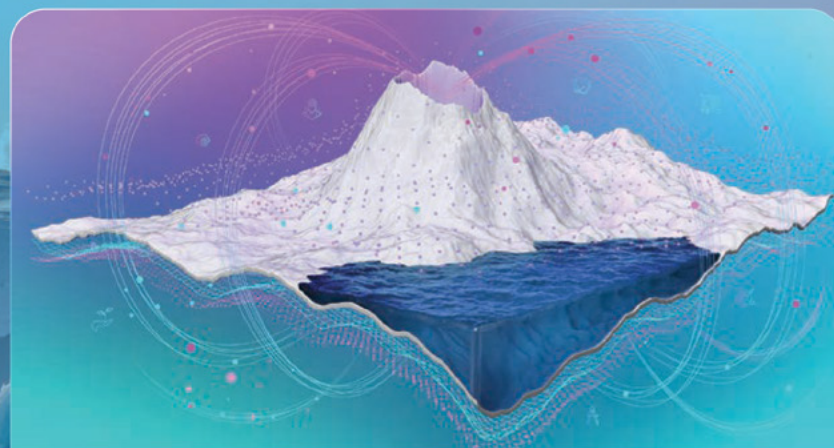
I planned to complete my four-year commitment in the Air Force and then "get a real job." Toward the end of my first tour, I got a call about an assignment in Korea that would give me more direct engineering experience as the Chief of Contracts Management to oversee engineering construction. That is where I fell in love with the Air Force. I felt like I was doing something much bigger than myself and contributing in important ways. It was also

where I met my wife, and I extended my tour there to two years.

I also remember being at Barksdale Air Force Base during [the September 11 attack]. Shortly after, I received a call from my leadership, "Hey, Ed. We've been asked to deploy. We cannot say where we're going or for how long. We need someone to lead a large team, and we want it to be you." That deployment was a surreal experience, leaving with a team of 50 to the Gulf and leading 200 people across 22 units. I felt a true connectedness to the mission.

What would you like to share with our SASE community?

There is a way that you can be successful whatever agency or industry you choose and keep your cultural values intact. Don't be ashamed of it – celebrate it.



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2023 CAREER SERVICE AWARD

These awardees have held senior-level management positions in their careers and made significant achievements with their leadership of large programs and initiatives. They have a career history decorated with increasing responsibility, outstanding management and inspiring mentorship.



Garrett Yee
Vice President and General Manager
GDIT
U.S. Army



Patrick Almazar
Senior Project Leader
The Aerospace Corporation
U.S. Air Force Veteran



Janice Chen
Associate Director
RTX
U.S. Army



Hsin-Fu Wu
Senior Manager of Systems Engineering
RTX
U.S. Navy Veteran



Marcelino Del Rosario
Systems Director
The Aerospace Corporation
U.S. Air Force Veteran



Jeff Saldivar
Senior Project Engineering Manager
Dow
U.S. Navy



Alberto Bontilao
Senior Field Engineer
RTX
U.S. Army Veteran



Kaipō McCartney
Senior Project Leader
The Aerospace Corporation
U.S. Air Force Veteran



Charles Allen
Director of Cyber Operations & Resilience Dept
The Aerospace Corporation
U.S. Air Force Veteran



David-Michael Roux
Senior Project Engineer
The Aerospace Corporation
U.S. Air Force Veteran

2023 PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AWARD

These awardees are highly experienced, mid-career professionals who have made significant discoveries, made important advances in their career paths, and are acknowledged as experts in their fields. They have demonstrated a strong track record of accomplishments with a high level of innovation within leadership or mentorship.



Jamie Smith
Electrical Lead
Shell
U.S. Navy Veteran



Fansu Ku
Senior Business Relationship Manager
Eaton
U.S. Army



Alan Cheng
International Program Manager
RTX
U.S. Marine Corps



Chester Hom
Senior Lead Technologist
Booz Allen Hamilton
U.S. Navy



Chris Banther
Supply Chain VP
Lockheed Martin
U.S. Air Force Veteran



Ashish Trivedi
Sub Chapter Head - Data Engineering
Chevron
U.S. Army

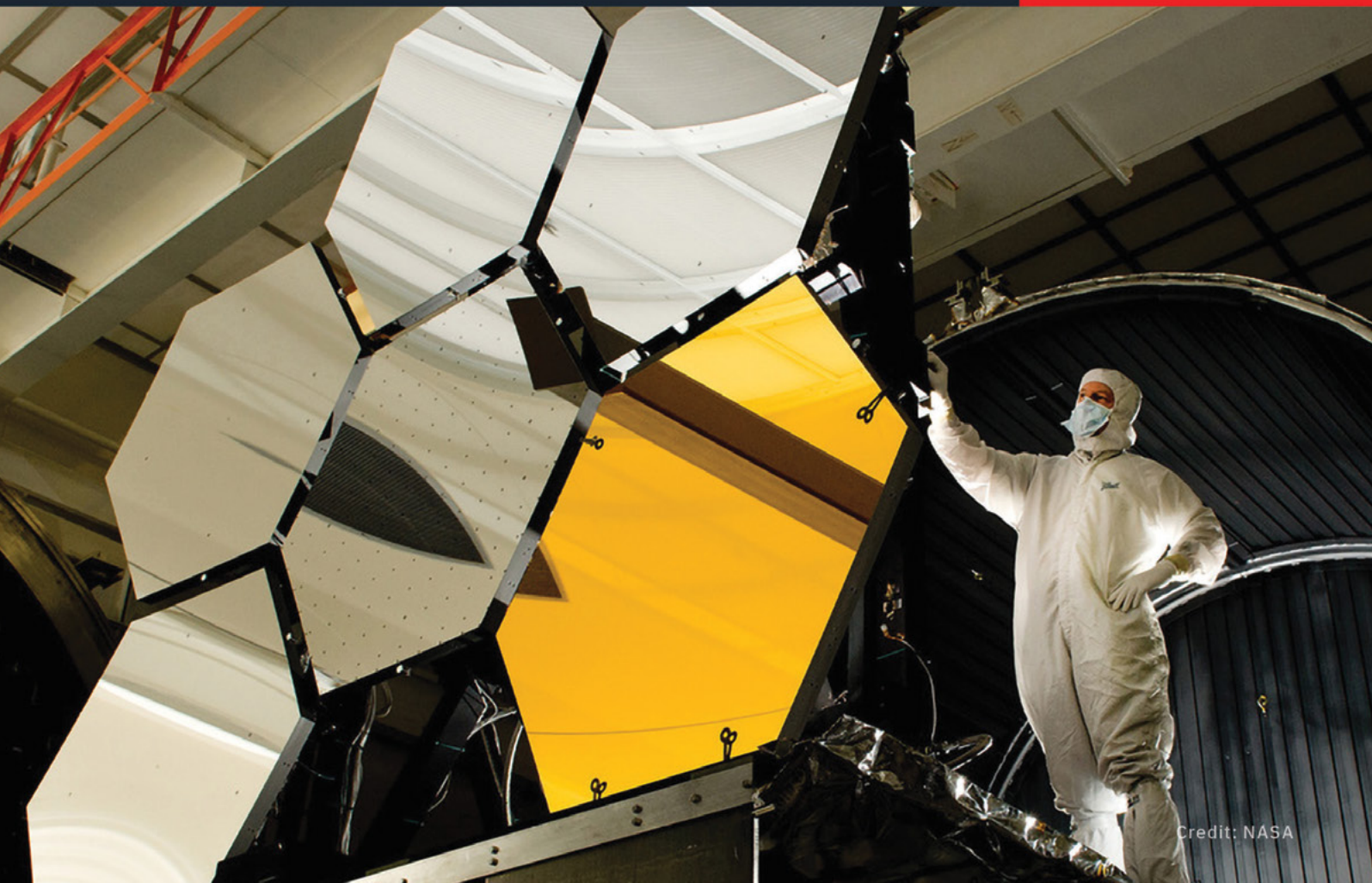
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Credit: NASA



2023 PROMISING PROFESSIONAL AWARD

These awardees are professionals in the early years of their careers who have already made key achievements and showed a high level of initiative in leadership or mentorship. They are also advocates for advances in STEM and diversity in their workplaces.



Omar Shakoor
Manager Sales –
Industrial Products
BNSF Railway
U.S. Army Veteran



John Nguyen
Deputing Program Manager
Laser Integration &
Demonstration Program
Air Force Research Laboratory
U.S. Air Force



Zachary Kum
Pathways Engineer
Systems
Northrop Grumman
U.S. Navy



Sabeel Hasan
Engineer II of Software
Engineering
RTX
U.S. Army



Asia Geeslin
Cyber Systems
Security Engineer
Lockheed Martin
U.S. Marine Corps



Jimmy Doan
Senior Improvement Engineer
Dow
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

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Contributed	\$3 million	in scholarship programs for students at historically Black colleges and universities
Invested	\$14 million	in workforce development initiatives
Spent	\$2.9 billion	with diversity-certified suppliers
Donated	\$164 million	to organizations with a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion efforts over the past five years

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Rise Like a Lotus

SASE PRO HOSTS WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

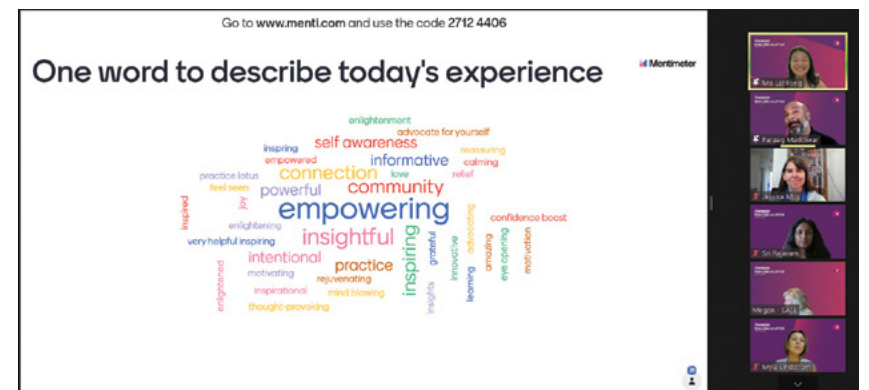
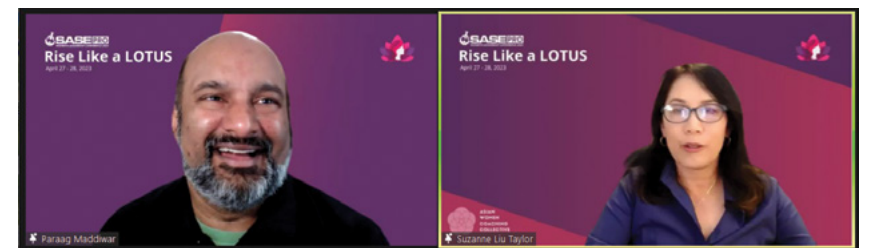
On April 27-28, 2023, SASE Pro held its 3rd Annual Virtual Women's Leadership Conference (WLC) catered specifically for API women professionals in STEM. Building off the momentum of the one-day conferences from the conference's first two years, this year's two-day event allowed more time for attendees to focus on the theme of what it means to "Rise like a Lotus." Over 220 attendees from 32 companies expanded their professional network, enjoyed deep conversations in breakout focus circles, and engaged with each other in 16 workshops across four concurrent tracks.

Keynotes Christina Yu, commercial vice president at Dow, and Nikki Kodama, vice president at Northrop Grumman, shared with attendees the challenges they have encountered during their careers and how they have climbed their ladders to success. All eight workshop presenters identify as Asian females and were able to directly relate to the challenges and concerns faced by their

audience. The workshops spanned a broad range of topics from authentic leadership to communicating with courage to building mental fitness. The speakers and panelists were exceptional at sharing their expertise, experiences, and inspiring stories of success and perseverance. SASE Pro is grateful to them for their generosity and willingness to share their time and knowledge with all of us.

SASE Pro wants to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who participated and helped make this year's event a resounding success. It was truly inspiring to witness the enthusiasm, passion, and dedication each of you brought to the table over the two-day conference as we worked to "Rise like a Lotus."

Again, thank you to those who supported participation in this program dedicated to advancing API women's leadership! For more information and the recap brochure, please visit wlc.saseconnect.org.



Here are just a few of the many comments SASE Pro received about the conference

“ I attended WLC2023 for the first time, and it was wonderful to see the powerhouse of Asian Women. It was so inspiring and helpful ... this was the best thing to happen to me at the right time.”
- Bharti Solanki, Thermo Fisher Scientific

“ I was utterly transformed by this experience ... an incredibly empowering event that made me so grateful for the holistic me!”
- Jeleen Sindall, VMD Cisco

“ SASE provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with other API professionals. The sessions were insightful and triggered emotional and thoughtful reflection on who I am and who I aspire to be.”
- Myla Lindstrom, Motorola Solutions

Only here can I work on Marine One on Day One.

My first project at Lockheed Martin was managing the cabin modernization of the presidential helicopter, Marine One. This was a no-fail mission: safely transport the President of the United States. To this day, as I reflect on the magnitude of that responsibility, I'm still humbled by leadership's trust in me.

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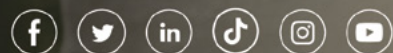
Our most anticipated gathering of the year! In this section, you'll find a comprehensive schedule of our exciting workshops, engaging panels, and invaluable networking opportunities. Discover the impressive lineup of organizations participating in our career fair, and read our heartfelt welcome letter as we embark on this transformative journey together.



It starts with you.

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- Commitment to a diverse, equitable and inclusive work environment that empowers employees to grow and succeed



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To our returning and new attendees, welcome to this year's SASE National Convention as we return to Atlanta, Georgia. This year's theme, SASEConnect, emphasizes how far the power of connection can take you on your collegiate and professional journey.

During the collegiate conference, you will have the opportunity to engage with our sponsoring companies as they bring their expertise and experiences to you through exciting workshops and panel discussions. Our programming committee has thoughtfully created networking sessions during the conference, enabling you to connect with various chapters and professionals from across the country. Sponsored resume review rooms have also returned; scheduled prior to the STEM Career Fair, these important sessions will help you get one step closer to your internship or first full-time position.

To continue our theme of connection, I cannot emphasize enough how important networking

is in this digital age. As easy as it is to hop on a call with someone online, it will always be a one-of-a-kind experience to meet face-to-face. This kind of organic interaction is something that cannot be replicated anywhere else, and I challenge all of our attendees to make as many quality connections as you possibly can during this National Convention. You never know what similar interests you might have with one another and where those connections will take you one day.

SASE continues to be the premier organization for connecting rising Asian STEM talent, thanks to our volunteers' relentless work, generous sponsors, and the SASE Squad's support. Special thank yous are for the following National Convention committee leaders: Prit Prakash as National Convention Assistant Chair, Brandon Poy and Zoe Imansjah as Programming Co-Managers, Chae Lee and Viwing Zheng as Logistics Co-Managers, Ummya Chaudhary as Marketing Manager, and last but not certainly not least Ronit Banerjee

"To continue our theme of connection, I cannot emphasize enough how important networking is in this digital age."

Dustin Nguyen
SASE National Convention 2023 Chair

as SASEhack Manager. Their relentless drive and leadership to enhance your National Convention experience are unmatched! If you want to be a part of next year's all-star team of National Convention planning volunteers, I encourage you to reach out to any one of us.

From the SASE NC team, we wish you fruitful connections and a wonderful convention experience!

Dustin Nguyen
SASE National Convention 2023 Chair



ATLANTA, GA | OCTOBER 2023

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2022 SASE National Convention Recap

Let's relive **SASENC2022**, our most electrifying, action-packed, and unforgettable event of 2022!



With nearly **2,000** brilliant minds under one roof, this National Convention was an absolute spectacle that left attendees buzzing with excitement!



More than **80** SASE Chapters, each bringing its unique energy and spirit...



...came ready to learn from our **15+** workshop sessions and brought in tremendous talent for our recruiters.



Add to that a whopping **90+** esteemed companies and organizations that were on the hunt for top talent, and the stage was set for an unforgettable convention.

But that was just the beginning! For three awe-inspiring days, the Convention became a melting pot of inspiration, knowledge, and connection.

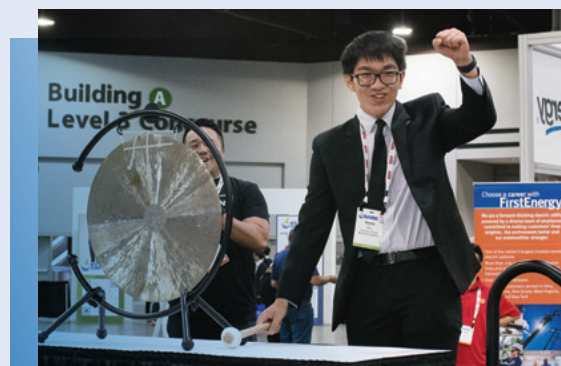
The SASE Pro Conference was a journey of unlocking Asian leadership potential. Engaging panels and training sessions led by nationally recognized trainers pushed the boundaries of what we thought was possible. Cultural agility and skill development took center stage, shaping leaders ready to conquer the world.

Imagine being in the presence of senior Asian executives from some of the most influential companies across the country. Executive panel discussions were nothing short of extraordinary, leaving attendees in awe and inspired by the achievements of these trailblazing leaders.

The SASE Collegiate Conference proved to be a thrill ride of personal and professional growth. From networking opportunities with recruiters to forging connections with SASE Chapters from coast to coast, students walked away with connections that will allow them to get a head start in their careers.

The icing on the cake? A STEM Career Fair, offering on-site job and internship offers that ignited sparks of excitement among attendees. Imagine walking out of the Convention with a bright future already secured!

SASENC2022 pushed the boundaries of success and breaking barriers along the way. It was a celebration of unity, innovation, and achievement.



COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE

NOTE: All times are in Eastern Time (ET)

Thursday, October 12 th	
5:00 PM - 5:45 PM	Collegiate Opening Reception
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Regional Networking, Karaoke, and Dance Workshop
7:30 PM - 11:00 PM	SASEhack
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Hospitality Suites
Friday, October 13 th	
7:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Registration
8:15 AM - 9:30 AM	Welcome & Morning Session
9:30 AM - 5:45 PM	Resume Review Rooms
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Interview Booths
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM	Workshops
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM	Morning Pastry & Coffee Break
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Panels & Workshops
12:30 PM - 1:45 PM	Lunch Break
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM	Workshops
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Workshops
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Asian Snack Break
4:45 PM - 5:45 PM	Networking Sessions
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Closing Ceremony
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Hospitality Suites
Saturday, October 14 th	
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Volunteer Only Career Fair
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Interview Booths (OAC only)
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Collegiate Conference Pass Only
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Interview Booths (Open to all)
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Career Fair
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Open to Career Fair Only Passes

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE

NOTE: All times are in Eastern Time (ET)

Wednesday, October 11 th	
5:00 PM	Registration Opens
6:00 PM	Pro Conference Welcome
7:30 PM	Open Networking
Thursday, October 12 th	
8:00 AM	Day 1 Overview
9:20 AM	Workshops
12:10 PM	Networking Lunch with Executives
2:00 PM	Workshops
3:35 PM	Executive Panel
5:00 PM	Achievement Awards + Light Refreshments
7:00 PM	Company/Networking Dinners (on your own)
Friday, October 13 th	
8:00 AM	Day 2 Overview
9:20 AM	Workshops
12:10 PM	SASE Salutes Awards + Keynote+Networking Lunch
2:00 PM	Workshops
3:35 PM	Executive Panel
4:45 PM	Total Conference Networking
6:00 PM	Closing Ceremony
7:30 PM	Professional Conference Banquet



For room numbers and session choices, download the SASE National Convention app



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2023

CAREER FAIR AT A GLANCE

Join the best and brightest Asian heritage scientists and engineers at the largest Asian STEM career fair in North America. The 2023 SASE Career Fair showcases opportunities for you to develop your professional networking skills and explore options to advance your education, careers, and industries.

2023 Career Fair Exhibitors

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Actalent | ESRI | Leidos | Rockwell Automation |
| Albemarle | Exelon | Lockheed Martin | Sandia National Laboratories |
| Amentum | Federal Aviation Authority | Missile Defense Agency | Savannah River Mission Completion |
| Ameren | Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) | MIT Lincoln Laboratory | Shell |
| Army Civilian Careers | FirstEnergy | Mortenson | Southwire |
| BAE Systems | Florida International University | National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency | Stanley Black & Decker |
| Berkshire Hathaway Energy | - College of Engineering & Computing | Naval Nuclear Laboratory | Stantec |
| Blue Origin | FM Global | National Nuclear Security Administration - Department of Energy | Stellantis |
| Booz Allen Hamilton | GE Aerospace | National Security Agency | Texas Department of Transportation |
| BNSF Railway | General Dynamics Electric Boat | Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) | Textron |
| The Boeing Company | Gilbane Building Company | Navy Civilian Careers | Turner Construction |
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| Chevron | Ingevity | Northrop Grumman | U.S. Coast Guard |
| Colorado School of Mines | Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory | NYU Tandon School of Engineering | USC Viterbi School of Engineering |
| Columbia University | L3Harris | Procter & Gamble | USDA Forest Service |
| Constellation Energy | Lehigh University: P.C. Rossin College of Engineering & Applied Science | Purdue University | U.S. Department of State |
| Corteva Agriscience | | RTX | USC Viterbi School of Engineering |
| Daimler Truck North America | | | Wabtec |
| Department of Air Force | | | Wells Fargo |
| Dow Chemical | | | Whiting-Turner Contracting Company |
| Draper | | | |

Resume Review Rooms

Resume reviews are an excellent opportunity to receive constructive feedback and polish your resume for the Career Fair. Our free, one-on-one resume consultations for the 2023 Career Fair will be provided by:



Check out the Career Fair site at conference.saseconnect.org/career-fair for more information!

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2023 SASE ROLE MODEL



To be seen as a SASE role model, it takes not only an admirable academic and professional profile, but also a dedication to SASE that is unique and self-evident. It's especially helpful to have won the hearts of hundreds of SASE members across the nation. Voted this year's role model, Randy Hsu has made an impact on the SASE community in his own distinctive way.

MEET RANDY HSU

- WHERE HE WORKS:** Interconnect Engineer at Consumers Energy
- WHERE HE STUDIED:** Purdue University
- FAVORITE FOOD:** Taiwanese Pork Chop Rice 排骨飯
- FAVORITE BOOK:** Atomic Habits by James Clear
- FAVORITE DESTINATION:** Taiwan
- FAVORITE SONG:** Stop This Train by John Mayer

It's all about the connections and relationships – between people from a variety of fields, walks of life, and levels of experience – that make the biggest impact and is what makes SASE the special place that it is. So says Randy Hsu, who originally started volunteering with SASE because he wanted to learn more about leadership. And yes, while he discovered along the way what he sought, by joining a chapter, meeting officers, and getting into event planning, the more important outcome of his volunteerism became the relationships.

“Through SASE, I had the opportunity to create space for people to continue building long-lasting bonds with one another and practice the leadership skills they want to develop,” Randy explained. “I next joined the regional team because I wanted to help provide people with a good experience through SASE as a way of paying it forward, and it means I get to continue to meet cool people!”

Randy's path at SASE was surely inspired by one of the very first people he met at his first regional conference, Dennis Hirotsu. Randy calls Dennis' storytelling ability and his passion to give back to his community two of his superpowers, and he is drawn in by Dennis' ability to relay his story of making the most out of the opportunities presented to him. Similarly, finding positivity in any situation and challenging himself to present in the best way possible for others has been guided through his relationship with Mentor Matt Diaz, whom he first met in 2016, when Randy attended the Collegiate Retreat. This opportunity led to a sushi dinner with Matt and Khanh, yielding invaluable time with organizational leaders and time spent

sharing sound career advice. Matt has been a sort of mentor ever since, who encourages Randy to regularly ask himself, “What I can learn and what experience can I get out of any situation?” That's a gift, he feels, that is always worth re-gifting.

As with any meaningful friendship, having fun together is also an important part of Randy's commitment to SASE. As Randy fondly remembers from the SASE Midwest Team retreat in 2017, which was his second as the Regional Coordinator, “It was a time that really illustrated for me that one of the reasons we do things is because we care for people and want to make a difference. Team bonding, trips to the beach, an escape room, games, and just spending time together is what allows us to connect and be friends. That rooted my affinity and connection with my team, and it's something I strive to embody in the years going forward. These events are so important, especially for someone transitioning and forming new connections, like a student, while also recognizing the importance of work-life balance.

RANDY'S TOP TIPS



“Make and schedule time for the important people in your life. It's easy to say ‘I'm too busy’ or ‘I don't have the energy,’ but a lot of happiness and fulfillment can be found through making other people a priority. Say yes to the wedding invite, a friend's birthday outing, SASE conferences, a road trip, an invite to a new restaurant, or the opportunity to explore a new place.”

“In college, it's easy to keep connections, but once you enter the workforce, it's harder to sustain them if you don't put in the effort. Focus on it and put in the energy; it's not something that is just going to come to you. You need to put in the effort.”



2023 SASE MARKETING RETREAT

Marketing representatives in SASE from every corner of the nation gathered virtually for the 2nd Annual SASE Digital Marketing Retreat this year! This three-hour event brought over 30+ attendees who engaged in a whirlwind of networking, two online workshops, and a spirited Instagram Reels competition. Attendees, including students from SASE chapters in all four regions, bonded over their love for marketing and left the retreat with new connections and inspiration.

Hosted during AAPI Heritage Month on May 21, our Instagram Reels competition allowed attendees to express "What their Asian Heritage means to them" by working collaboratively to create a short video. The submissions overflowed with creativity, passion, and fun expressions of cultural pride. To catch all the fantastic entries, be sure to check out the hashtag #SASEDigitalMKTRetreat2023 on Instagram. We promise you won't be disappointed in what you see!

Our workshops were hosted by Carol Geng, our merchandising specialist, who covered "Elements of Design," along with Emily Nguyen

and John Villafuerte, our Discord specialists, who discussed "Mastering Discord for Chapter Communities." Attendees' key takeaways were understanding how to use design to make their graphics more eye-catching and tips on how to create a more engaging Discord community.

Keep an eye out for next year's event; until then, keep those creative engines revving, and remember that in the world of marketing, the sky's the limit!

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Pro: October 9-11, 2024
Collegiate: October 10-11, 2024
STEM Career Fair: October 12, 2024

Boston Convention and Exhibition Center | Boston, MA





2023 SASE STARS

The SASE Stars program annually recognizes individuals who stand out as leaders and go above and beyond to further SASE's mission. Already highly revered within their collegiate chapters and national volunteer teams, our SASE Stars are nominated by their SASE peers and then selected for their dedication, impact and leadership. Congratulations to this year's SASE Stars!



Emerging STAR AWARD

(Awarded to SASE National Volunteers of 1-2 Years)

SHARA SHRESTHA

- Midwest Regional Manager
- Midwest Regional Marketing Representative
- University of Dayton VP
- University of Dayton Marketing officer



Shara unfailingly gives time and energy to help complete tasks beyond what her position entails, always thinking of new ways to improve SASE's brand through marketing and supporting other volunteers. With SASE always on her mind, it is a given that she will give her whole attention to SASE if you ask - and even when it is not asked of her! She goes above and beyond to support the regional and national teams, fostering the SASE Family community as a whole, and providing encouragement and motivation to every team she is a part of. When the Midwest Regional Conference looked like it may not happen due to unexpected circumstances, Shara took on the responsibility of making sure it did, knowing how vitally important it was for Midwest Region Chapter students, volunteers, and community.

She takes the time and care to understand the needs of her students and teammates, and she serves as a mentor to many students. Despite not holding a position that requires frequent interaction with the student chapters, Shara makes herself available to all students - even outside of her volunteer region - to guide them through whatever SASE-related issues they face.

Shara demonstrates leadership by leading with intentional guidance. In addition to the work she does for SASE, she gives that care and attention to every member she leads. She takes

the time to work one-on-one with multiple team members to ensure they are comfortable with their tasks and are organized and focused with their goals and vision. She leads selflessly and creates a safe environment where honesty and friendships come easily.

Emerging STAR AWARD

(Awarded to SASE National Volunteers of 1-2 Years)

RONAK DESAI



Last year, all but two of the leaders on the South team gave up their volunteer positions, and the team was mostly replaced with new members. Ronak stepped up immediately and took on the Senior Regional Coordinator role to ensure the region's continued strong leadership, and his dedication ensured that the chapter Regional Manager would not be the sole returning volunteer, while all the new volunteers would have a mentor, as well. Ronak also took on additional responsibilities, attending meetings to select venues for the South Central Regional Conference and Southeast Regional Conference, and being an integral part of the new volunteer selection process for the upcoming year. He even scheduled and attended every candidates' interviews!

Throughout Ronak's time as a Regional Coordinator, he has gone above and beyond his regular responsibilities to help the fledging chapters grow and to support one of the biggest chapters to win an Inspire Award. As a Senior Regional Coordinator, Ronak helped his RC team flourish and grow by hosting regular 1:1s and helping them advise their own chapters.

any advice," said a nominator. "He willingly scheduled a 1:1 to talk through the issues and took the time to interact with chapter presidents and other chapter leaders during collegiate meetings, the National Conference, and regional conferences. He was always willing to act as a leader and a teacher and provide insight and advice on how to improve elevator pitches, resumes, interview skills, and improve their chapter."

"Ronak always took the time to answer any of my questions about my role or needed

- South Regional Manager
- South Senior Regional Coordinator
- South Regional Coordinator
- Texas A&M University President
- Texas A&M University PR Director





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Rising STAR AWARD

(Awarded to SASE National Volunteers of 2-4 Years)

SWETHA CHERUKURI



Swetha has been a key figure to many in SASE, providing inspiration and always striving to ensure that her team and chapters are exceeding expectations in all areas. The region has been successful because of Swetha's efforts and encouragement; as a volunteer leader, she has consistently demonstrated a rare ability to inspire, motivate, and empower others to achieve their full potential. She has a genuine desire to make a positive difference in the lives of others, and this has been evident in every aspect of her work as a volunteer.

Swetha is an effective communicator and passionate about giving SASE members a memorable and beneficial experience. She continuously strives to make the team and region better so that it is of value to others, ensuring, for example, that the team participates in events such as Spirit Week or Science Week. She has fostered a strong sense of community and teamwork among volunteers and has always been willing to go above and beyond to support and encourage others.

"Last year, I was still serving as president at ASU, and I have always admired how well organized Swetha was - as well as just being a really nice person to talk with," a nominator said. "When I joined the West team this year, I was really shocked to learn that it is only her second year as Regional Manager; I thought she had been Regional Manager for years! The way she holds everyone accountable and still makes it fun is really admirable. Not only does she show up to everything, but she goes above and beyond, and I am really proud to have her as my RM this year."

- West Regional Manager
- National Convention Collegiate Programming Committee
- SASE Pro Collegiate Relations
- Southern California Regional Coordinator
- UCSB Chapter President





Shining STAR AWARD

(Awarded to SASE National Volunteers of 5+ Years)

DUSTIN NGUYEN

Dustin has dedicated more than five years of volunteering service as a National Volunteer, with positions ranging from Collegiate to National Committees. He has helped build and maintain relationships within his region to help support and foster communication between national and regional committees, even visiting local collegiate chapters and acting as a SASE advocate in the workplace to build awareness of SASE Professional and the value it provides. With Dustin's SASE experience as a collegiate member and volunteer, he also took the initiative to develop a business case to rationalize increasing his company's SASE sponsorship amount from a general career fair exhibitor to an Organizational Advisory Council member. Doing so has benefitted SASE holistically as an organization and provides diverse career opportunities to its collegiate members. Dustin also used his reputation as a high-performing SASE volunteer to help collegiate chapters build relationships with external organizations and help them build a bigger presence on their respective university campuses.

"During the 2021 National Conference planning cycle, Dustin was able to keep their volunteers motivated while converting the conference from in-person to virtual," a nominator added. "Despite the short turnaround time, he was able to guide his volunteers in executing the contingency plan

when it came time to convert the conference to a virtual event. Not only that, but he also made sure to recognize his volunteers so that their work did not go uncredited, and he used his experience as a former SASE chapter board member to give back to his former collegiate chapter and guide new chapters."

- NC Chair
- NC Attendance Committee Manager
- NC Marketing Committee Assistant Manager
- NC Attendance Subcommittee Manager
- Lehigh University Public Relations Chair



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- Electrical Engineering MS, PhD
- Emerging Technologies MS
- Environmental Engineering MS
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- Mathematical Sciences MS
- Mechanical Engineering MS, PhD
- Mechatronics and Robotics MS
- Transportation Management MS
- Transportation Planning and Engineering MS, PhD
- Urban Systems PhD

MIDWEST COLLEGIATE STAR AWARD

GAVIN CHAIDIR



"I discovered SASE when I stumbled upon an Instagram page called UIUC SASE. Back then, the club was still in its early stages and there wasn't much activity, but my curiosity was piqued. Around the same time, my girlfriend, who is involved with the USC Chapter of SASE, introduced me to the club's overall mission and activities. Intrigued by what I learned, I decided to immerse myself in SASE's events, fundraisers, study hangouts, and general meetings. I interacted with current members and SASE UIUC's E-Board, and their warm and welcoming nature left a lasting impression on me. I quickly realized that SASE was more than just an organization; it was a community that embraced diversity and fostered a sense of belonging. SASE was the perfect fit for me, and I knew I wanted to contribute and be a part of its impactful work.



professional etiquette and networking with industry professionals.

SASE encompasses the comprehensive growth of its members, ranging from networking with professionals and gaining industry knowledge to landing a dream job or connecting with like-minded individuals who may share different experiences and cultures but support each other's journeys and goals. It's about building a community of individuals who uplift and inspire one another, creating a network of support that goes beyond professional aspirations.

I encourage everyone to 'be yourself.' Share your culture and your interests with everyone. By being yourself, you not only have the opportunity to share with others your culture but also to learn from and appreciate the diverse backgrounds of fellow SASE members. Embracing that sense of openness leads to meaningful connections, friendships, and a deeper understanding of different cultures and perspectives within your SASE chapter. All this helps build a sense of camaraderie and creates a positive, inclusive environment."

- UIUC SASE Member
 October 2022 – March 2023
- UIUC SASE VP
 External Affairs
 March 2023 – Present

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Ramen
- Favorite book:** BBC, The Telegraph, Wall Street Journal, or any other news outlet's article.
- Favorite destination:** Choosing one would be too difficult; my top three are Singapore, Tokyo, and Los Angeles.
- Favorite song:** I listen to almost all types of music genres depending on the mood.

HONORABLE MENTION



ANDY THAI

"My involvement with SASE launched during my time at the [University of Minnesota - Twin Cities], where I tried a variety of student groups, searching for a community with which I resonated both professionally and culturally. It was not until the end of my sophomore year that truly gave me a chance to see what SASE was all about; I started attending events that semester and soon found myself applying to join the board. In all honesty, the mission and pillars pushed me to take that chance and I haven't regretted it.

Since then, I've been able to volunteer with different schools and students as a SASE Jr. Director, and it's been so incredibly rewarding to see students from underprivileged backgrounds gain opportunities to learn and grow with the STEM field. In addition, seeing my own volunteers improve in communicative skills was just as amazing to see. SASE is a community that works and grows together, and I encourage anyone considering joining SASE to reach out when they feel overwhelmed. At the end of the day, it's better to talk through any struggles with your team than to grind it out and potentially risk burn out. You're a person first!"



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NORTHEAST COLLEGIATE STAR AWARD

LILLIAN J. LEE



learn from each other and collaborate. SASE became a big family where students could come together and relieve stress.

As part of my recognition of the lack of representation, I created the SASE TedTalk: How my culture shaped my career, identity, and future. Through the SASE TedTalk, I provided students with a chance to meet and hear the stories of successful and accomplished Asian American panelists coming from different STEM backgrounds to discuss how their cultural identity affects their experience in the workplace, identity, and future. More than 80 students attended and came away with insights gained from hearing how speakers had overcome their own career struggles, which gave them hope and courage to continue pursuing their major and not letting failures stop them. In a way, the SASE TedTalk encompasses what SASE is: a society that celebrates community, culture, and career development. The TedTalk created a community where we were able to celebrate our culture of being Asian while also finding ways to elevate our career goals.

"As a medical student at the Sophie Davis Biomedical 7-year BS/MD combined program, I realized that among the 72 students accepted per year, I was one of only three Asian students. I love being surrounded by other cultures and learning from my peers, but I found myself having to advocate alone regarding Asian-related issues such as health disparities, Asian hate crimes, and the lack of Asians in leadership positions for STEM companies. I felt alone, and I knew I wanted to find a place where I could be myself and continue my efforts to advocate for the Asian community. That's when I found SASE. Before I became SASE President in 2021, SASE only had 22 members and was lacking in funding due to the \$10.7 million CCNY budget cuts. I was able to grow SASE membership to 168 students from various majors, which helped create an environment where students could

SASE welcomes people from all backgrounds and through its inclusiveness, promotes cultural sensitivity and education, unites minorities, and helps break the model minority myth that was created to pit minorities against each


- CCNY SASE President 2021-2023
- Regional Coordinator 2023-2024

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Anything raw or spicy (e.g., sashimi)
- Favorite book:** The Atlas of Human Anatomy by Frank H. Netter
- Favorite destination:** Anywhere my German Shepherd dog (Chun-Lee) is.
- Favorite song:** People by Libianca

other and downplay the discrimination that Asians face. And while everyone joins SASE for different reasons, those who join without expecting anything in return are the ones who will gain the most. Be open to meeting new people, ask questions, and learn from others. Step out of your comfort zone so you can learn about others and others can learn about you!"

HONORABLE MENTION



KAITLIN SO

"Enticed by free food and the opportunity to meet peers with shared experiences, I attended NYU SASE's 'Rice to Meet You' event in my first year. I was greeted by upperclassmen who immediately struck up conversation about anything and everything. From the dining halls to avoid to the professors to win over, the mentorship and advice I received from SASE members were invaluable. When leadership applications came out, I applied and was ecstatic when I was chosen to be event coordinator. I found my community in SASE and have since met some of my closest friends.

This past semester, the NYU SASE executive board was craving something sweet after sharing lunch in Chinatown as a part of our

SASEats program, and we thought of a place not too far from where we were — only two blocks down and across the street. Seems simple, right? Wrong. There was a Lunar New Year parade going through, and corner after corner, we were barricaded in. Determined to satisfy our craving, we walked through all of Chinatown before we finally found an opening and made a run for it. The dessert was mediocre, but the laughs and memories will last a lifetime.

SASE is just so full of opportunities for your professional and personal growth; you just have to be on the lookout and make the best of it — and, don't be afraid to ask for help!"

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SOUTH COLLEGIATE STAR AWARD

BENJAMIN PHAM



"I first got involved with SASE at the end of my freshman year when the founding president was searching for new officers. With the pandemic having started, he reached out to me, as we'd met through other organizations, and told me that he thought I'd be a great fit for SASE. Turns out, he was right. My trip to SERC 2022 is especially memorable; it was our first regional conference since the pandemic started and we took only five of our members. It ended up being an absolute blast of an experience. It meant a 10-hour road trip each way, but we mixed it up with great food stops and attractions (that the team would repeat again this past year), and the people we met while we were at the University of South Florida more than made up for it.

Coming in, I thought SASE would be just another professional development organization that I could be a part of, but it's so much more than that. Over the past three years, SASE has grown to mean family to me. Everyone just wants to see each other grow, thrive, and succeed in whatever capacity they desire. We're a community that uplifts each other so that everyone gets a shot at their dreams.

To make the magic happen, network, network, network. SASE is one of the most diverse communities there is in terms of STEM majors, and you never know who you'll meet in your chapter and what you can do for each other. Go out there, meet new faces, make new friends, and grow your community."

- SASE UTK Professional Events Director 2020-2021
- SASE UTK President 2021-2023
- SASE UTK Conference Advisor Current

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Phở Tái Bò Viên
- Favorite book:** Inheritance by Christopher Paolini
- Favorite destination:** London, UK
- Favorite song:** There's Still a Light in the House - Valley

HONORABLE MENTION

AMY PHAN

"I first learned about SASE through my sister, Jenny, who was a member of SASE University of Texas at Arlington. Although University of North Texas has over 450 student organizations, I could not find an organization where I felt comfortable and that would help me grow both as an individual as well as in my career, so I founded my own chapter with SASE! In 2022, I attended my first SASE National Conference and made

so many new connections. It's also where I met my best friend, Lexus, and formed the '2 for 1 special.'

SASE is an amazing community and network of people, and I encourage all of my peers to accept every opportunity that comes their way, whether it's to accept a leadership position or just join someone for lunch. Everyone can find lifelong friends in SASE."



WEST COLLEGIATE STAR AWARD

KAITLYN WONG



“Our university’s engineering resource center oversees six different diversity organizations, and SASE was the only one relevant to me. Even better, they promised they’d have tacos at their information session, so, naturally, I went. I’ve been hooked ever since! To me, SASE has been like a family away from home these past four years. At the National Conference in 2022, I got to meet so many different SASE members from across the country, some of whom I had met during the pandemic but had never met in person. It was a really cool, full-circle moment to finally be together in the same place, especially because of the shared organization and interest that brought all of us together in the first place.

I’ve found SASE to be such a great way to meet people who you wouldn’t have met otherwise. It’s a place to find mentors, meet people who are pursuing your dream career, talk with members of industry who have been in your place before, or just get to know other students who can talk about which professors you should and shouldn’t take. There’s so much room to grow and learn just from being in SASE. I encourage everyone to get involved as much as you can, and it’ll pay off in the future. Embrace your creativity and keep going. You make SASE a better place by bringing your strengths to the space – don’t be afraid to get out there and do your thing!”

- Publicity Intern
2019-2020
- Finance Chair
2020-2021
- Co-President
2021-2022
- President
2022-2023
- West Regional
Conference Director
2022-2023

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Anything my dad cooks
- Favorite book:** East of Eden
- Favorite destination:** OMOMO Tea Shoppe in Irvine, CA
- Favorite song:** Night Changes by One Direction

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HONORABLE MENTION



SHAAKIRA GADIWAN

“My involvement with SASE began when representatives from Berkshire Hathaway Energy reached out to the University of Calgary and introduced the SASE organization.

At the same time, as students entered the classrooms for the first time since COVID-19, I was seeking avenues to enhance my social connections. SASE presented the perfect solution; joining allowed me to engage in meaningful advocacy work – supporting and empowering Asian scientists and engineers – and provided an excellent platform for personal and professional growth.

Right after in-person teaching resumed in September 2022, we organized an information session at the University of Calgary, hosting representatives from Berkshire Hathaway Energy, AltaLink, and the esteemed Khanh Vu from SASE. It was an exhilarating experience to meet these influential leaders for the first time, and, as the session unfolded, they shared invaluable advice and motivated us to persist in our cause and continue making a difference through SASE. Our encounter fostered a true sense of unity and purpose

within the SASE UCalgary members. I’ve since discovered that SASE is a highly interconnected network, particularly when it comes to chapter building and member retention. Whether a chapter is established or just starting out, there is a wealth of knowledge and guidance available from other chapters, which facilitates collaboration and enables chapters to learn from one another’s successes and challenges. Our interconnectedness opens doors for mentorship and provides valuable insights into career opportunities, making it an indispensable resource for career-planning and professional development.

Engage with your local SASE chapter and fellow members. Attend meetings, events, and workshops with an open mind. Actively participate in discussions, ask questions, and share your own experiences. Seek out leadership roles within your chapter to develop valuable organizational and teamwork abilities. Lastly, don’t be afraid to step out of your comfort zone. SASE is a platform for growth and a vibrant community that thrives through active engagement.”



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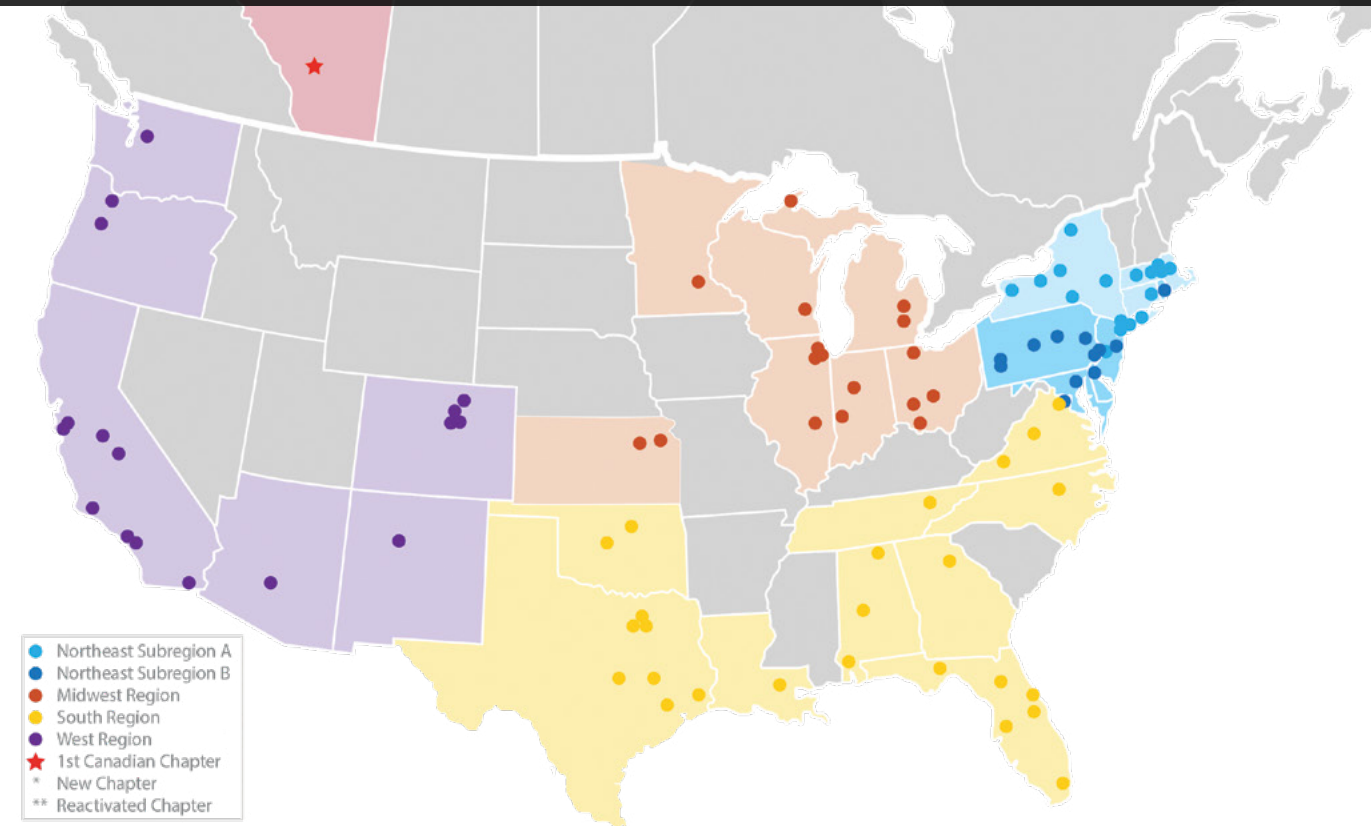
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- Binghamton University
- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- City College of New York, The
- Clarkson University
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Princeton University*
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- Stony Brook University
- University at Buffalo
- University of Connecticut
- University of Massachusetts - Amherst
- University of Rochester
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Brown University*
- Bucknell University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Drexel University
- George Washington University
- Lehigh University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Rutgers University
- University of Delaware
- University of Maryland - College Park
- University of Pittsburgh
- Villanova University

midwest

- Kansas State University
- Michigan State University
- Michigan Technological University
- Northwestern University
- Ohio State University, The
- Purdue University
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- University of Chicago*
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Dayton
- University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign**
- University of Kansas
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
- University of Toledo
- Wilbur Wright College

west

- Arizona State University
- California State University - Fresno
- California State University - Long Beach
- Colorado School of Mines
- Colorado State University - Fort Collins
- Oregon State University
- Regis University
- San Jose State University
- University of California Merced
- University of California San Diego
- University of California Santa Barbara
- University of California Santa Cruz
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of New Mexico
- University of Portland
- University of Southern California
- University of Washington

south

- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach
- Florida State University
- George Mason University
- Lamar University
- Louisiana State University
- North Carolina State University
- Oklahoma State University
- Texas A&M University
- University of Alabama - Huntsville
- University of Alabama, The
- University of Central Florida
- University of Florida
- University of Georgia*
- University of Houston
- University of Miami
- University of Oklahoma, The
- University of South Alabama*
- University of South Florida
- University of Tennessee - Knoxville, The
- University of Texas at Arlington
- University of Texas at Austin, The
- University of Texas at Dallas
- University of Virginia Charlottesville
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- University of North Texas

CANADA

- University of Calgary



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2023 SPIRIT OF SASE AWARDS

The Spirit of SASE Award is honoring outstanding volunteers within each SASE committee. Exclusively selected and recognized by the SASE Squad, these award winners embody the heart and soul of SASE through their extraordinary dedication to the organization's mission.

Congratulations to this year's Spirit of SASE Award recipients!

SASE PRO COMMITTEE

TRAM NGUYEN



Tram has a lot of favorites from her time working with SASE, but a top five has to have been during the 2022 National Conference, when SASE put out Asian snacks for the Pro attendees during one of the breaks. "There was a mad dash to grab chips and candy," she remembered, "and everyone was just so happy enjoying these simple Asian snacks. It was such a unifying moment, and our differences did not matter at that moment. The entire community bonded over shrimp chips and Hi-Chews."

That bonded feeling is a familiar thread, as Tram has consistently found that so many individuals in the SASE community are willing to offer help and support for each other. "As Asians, we are shy about reaching out because we do not want

to bother others, but do not ever feel bad about reaching out because people truly want to help," she said. "A big part of SASE is learning to ask for help and accepting it."

What other advice would she share with an incoming member? In short, be vulnerable and challenge your current beliefs and practices. "We are greatly influenced by our background and upbringing both on a conscious level and even more on a subconscious level," she said. "Throughout my SASE journey, I wrestle with the question, 'Am I doing this because I truly believe in it or did my upbringing tell me I should believe in it?' Thinking about this has helped me better understand my true motivation so I can act with more intention."

SASE Pro Bridge Committee (2021-Present)

FUN FACTS

- Favorite Food:** Chocolate
- Favorite Book:** Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
- Favorite Destination:** Singapore
- Favorite Song:** This is Me by Keala Settle from The Greatest Showman

COLLEGIATE COMMITTEE

SWETHA CHERUKURI



Sometimes, closings are as exciting as beginnings, as was the case for Swetha at what would be her last West Regional Conference this past February with her SASE West Team. "Being together with some of my best friends, seeing one of our chapters host an amazing conference, and passing on the Regional Manager role to Katelynn was a really happy way to slowly bring my chapter as a national volunteer for SASE to a close while celebrating with my West Team family," she said. "It's amazing how many unique people you can meet through SASE that you

never would've met otherwise - I've met some of the people I'm closest to in my life through SASE, either in college or through being a national volunteer, and I wouldn't trade those people and experiences for anything!"

Looking back, her advice for incoming members is perhaps not surprising: Always talk to as many people as you can, because you never know who could be your new best friend. Take every opportunity to interact with people you've never met before.

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Any South Indian food my mom makes!
- Favorite book:** I could never pick just one, but a good mix would be The Lord of the Rings trilogy, Fahrenheit 451, The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, The

- Princess Bride, and a nice collection of Sherlock Holmes stories
- Favorite destination:** Other than California, aka the best state, I would probably say New York City for within the U.S.!
- Favorite song:** Yellow by Coldplay

- UCSB Chapter President 2018-2020
- Southern California Regional Coordinator 2020-2021
- SASE Pro Collegiate Relations 2020-2021
- National Convention Collegiate Programming Committee 2019-2022
- West Regional Manager 2021-2023

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NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE

BRANDON POY



When you've had a long, successful run with an organization, it's not always easy to pick out a single favorite memory, but for Brandon, the experience of meeting so many amazing people across the nation, along with the valuable skills and lessons learned through SASE, have emerged as priceless. "I initially joined SASE to meet people in college, and I am happy to say that I have met some of my closest friends thanks to the strong communities of SASE within each chapter and on a national level," he said.

Still, he's quick to point out that while the opportunities are there, it's up to individuals to take advantage of them by getting out as

much as one puts in. "Whether you want to make lots of friends, develop professionally, gain leadership experience, or more, there are ways to do that in SASE, but the extent of each depends on the work and effort you're willing to put in," he said. "Opportunities will come, and when they do, take a risk and value your ability to grow. The hardest part about making the most of every opportunity is committing; it's okay if you don't know exactly what to do from the get-go, because if you have faith in yourself and are willing to put in the work, the resources and mentors are there for you to grow into your potential. Everyone has the potential to be amazing leaders."

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Ramen, but not the instant 'broke college student' kind.
- Favorite book:** If You Give a Mouse a Cookie because it's a classic and that's about where my reading level caps out.
- Favorite destination:** Japan because I love the food, architecture, landscapes, and culture.
- Favorite song:** Currently "Friends" by ILLBOI and Wonstein

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES CHAPTER:

Conference Chair
 2020-2022

Treasurer
 2022-2023

Co-President
 2023-2024

NATIONALS:

Virtual NC Programming Manager
 2021

NC Programming Committee Member
 2022

NC Programming Manager
 2023

MARKETING COMMITTEE

AMBERLY NGO



The very first volunteer summit that Amberly attended as a Regional Marketing Representative was in Las Vegas in 2019, and with everything being so new, she mostly remembers the nervous excitement of meeting West region team members and other national volunteers in person for the first time. Further inspired by the workshops, team-building exercises, and city explorations, she came out of the summit even more excited to be a volunteer and about the work she could accomplish in the upcoming year.

"I've realized that the people you get to work with come and go, but the connections, genuineness, and supportive spirit of SASE's members remain and keeps us connected," she said. "It's reassuring to know that if you have a question about a field you're interested in or

an initiative you want to start in SASE, there's always someone who's enthusiastic to talk it out or connect you to someone who is. The Adult Table podcast is an example of that (shoutout to our awesome team!). Jenny Cheung and Jason Chin had the idea to start a podcast for the SASE community and young professionals, and I joined soon after to help with marketing since their goals for the podcast resonated with me."

Looking back, Amberly has discovered that the volunteer year can go quickly or slowly, depending on how deeply one immerses themselves in their role. "Don't be afraid to raise a question or opinion, and experiment with different ways to fulfill your role responsibilities, like starting new traditions or refreshing old standard operating procedures."

West Regional Marketing Representative
 2019-2021

West Regional Coordinator
 2021-2022

Regional Marketing Representative (RMR) Manager
 2022-2023

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Korean Fried Chicken with a side of fries
- Favorite book:** Percy Jackson and the Olympians series
- Favorite destination:** Singapore
- Favorite song:** Campfire by SEVENTEEN



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VOLUNTEER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

KRISTEN PHAM



When Kristen thinks of her years with SASE, one of her strongest memories is meeting the human resources team for the first time in 2017, at the SASE National Convention in Schaumburg. After having been a part of the team for about six months, they had up until then been working together virtually but had never met in person.

One of her biggest takeaways is that even though members come together for professional purposes, there are lifelong friends to be made.

"When you meet people at work who were also in SASE, there is a special bond you have with them because of your involvement," she said. "As an introvert, sometimes it's hard for me to start

conversations, but I've found that everyone in SASE is happy to share their story about how they got to where they are today. They're all willing to help if they can, so don't be afraid to network with other people and learn about other people's stories."

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Cà Ri Gà – Vietnamese chicken curry
- Favorite book:** The Best We Could Do by Thi Bui
- Favorite destination:** Barcelona, Spain
- Favorite song:** It changes a lot, but my current favorite is Moonlight Sunrise by Twice

- Human Resources Internal Communications member 2017-2019
- Human Resources Organizational Development member 2019-2023
- Volunteer Resources Manager 2023-Present

IT COMMITTEE

FREDERICA SHIH



If one talks with enough people about their experience with SASE, almost everyone will come away with the overriding feeling that to be a part of SASE means being part of a close-knit family. That couldn't be more true for Frederica, who remembers fondly the formal and not-so-formal events that her college chapter leaders hosted, especially during her senior year, that spotlighted how fun, cohesive, and coordinated their chapter was.

But after being away from SASE for four years, she came back and was re-introduced to her old collegiate chapter with all new faces.

"I was immediately embraced by my collegiate chapter and National Conference family, which felt particularly meaningful as at the time, I was going through a difficult friendship breakup," she said. "I questioned my own integrity and likability, and I wasn't even sure if I could ever open up to a person again. But at the National Conference,

I experienced a wave of catharsis; I was closing a big door in my life, but I was opening several new doors to new friendships. My SASE fam helped me heal from that difficult experience."

"Ask questions, and recognize that the expectations for you as a member or volunteer are not always going to be a linear line of commands. This is where curiosity can help bring clarity on what needs to be done or where there's an opportunity to improve something," she advised. "I was interested in creating a wiki for SASE, so I asked my committee manager where I could host a wiki; he pointed me to a gitbook that Victor had already started and populated with tons of information. I was able to build upon the immense progress that Victor made to build something together written from the perspective of Leadership and IT, but if I hadn't asked Rolland all the detailed questions that I did, I would not have understood the complexity of SASE's IT network to the degree I do now."

- IT Committee Programmer January 2022-Present

FUN FACTS

- Favorite food:** Any type of noodle
- Favorite book:** Daughter of the Moon Goddess by Sue Lynn Tan
- Favorite destination:** Taiwan, where my family is
- Favorite song:** Rain Man & Krysta Youngs - Habit (Bug Hunt & RNX Remix)

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- Brandon Poy**
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- NATIONAL CONVENTION MARKETING**
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NC Marketing Manager and Website & Mobile App Specialist
- Amrith Kancharla**
Email Marketing Specialist

- Alex Cheng**
Merchandising Specialist
- Marie Dock**
Community Engagement Coordinator
- Victoria Lam**
Attendance Subcommittee Member
- Shara Shrestha**
Social Media Strategist
- SASEHACK**
- Tamnhu Nguyen**
In-Person Programming Coordinator
- Cindy Tran**
Sponsorship Relations Liaison
- Thien Nguyen**
In-Person Programming Coordinator
- Neri Vu**
Virtual Hackathon Coordinator
- Jon Wong**
Virtual Hackathon Coordinator
- Alex Lap**
Sponsorship Relations Liaison
- COLLEGIATE**
- Liz Fujita**
Director of Collegiate Programs
- Matt Diaz**
Manager of Collegiate Programs
- Randy Hsu**
Collegiate Board Member Representative
- Dustin Nguyen**
Collegiate Board Member Representative (elect)
- MIDWEST REGION (2023-2024)**
- Shara Shrestha**
Regional Manager
- Dua Shehadeh**
Chapter Coordinator

- Marie Dock**
Program Coordinator
- Timo Budiono**
Program Coordinator
- Andrea Wynn**
Regional Coordinator
- Shreyas Kashyap**
Regional Coordinator
- Joong Hyun Pyo**
Regional Coordinator
- Isaac Fong**
Regional Coordinator
- Abirami Subbiah**
Regional Coordinator
- NORTHEAST REGION (2023-2024)**
- Sonny Diep**
Regional Manager
- Lambert Wu**
Senior Regional Coordinator
- Eric Zheng**
Senior Regional Coordinator and Chapter Coordinator
- Sandra Ho**
Chapter Coordinator
- Maisha Ikra**
Program Coordinator
- Serena Lee**
Program Coordinator
- Jennifer Duong**
Regional Coordinator
- Eric Zhao**
Regional Coordinator
- Kelton Nguyen**
Regional Coordinator
- Serena Wu**
Regional Coordinator
- Erica Chou**
Regional Coordinator

- Lillian J. Lee**
Regional Coordinator
- Alan Zhang**
Regional Coordinator
- Kaitlin So**
Regional Coordinator
- SOUTH REGION (2023-2024)**
- Ronak Desai**
Regional Manager
- Aaron Ildefonso**
Regional Coordinator
- Aishwarya Mantagani**
Senior Regional Coordinator
- Alvin Chen**
Regional Coordinator
- Tyler Do**
Program Coordinator
- Vinny Truong**
Regional Coordinator
- Henry Nguyen**
Regional Coordinator
- Sharon Pearl Nath**
Regional Coordinator
- Amy Phan**
Regional Coordinator
- Lexus Pham**
Chapter Coordinator
- Kevin Tran**
Program Coordinator
- WEST REGION (2023-2024)**
- Katelynn Thammavong**
Regional Manager
- Andrew Wong**
Regional Coordinator
- Justin Sith**
Chapter Coordinator
- Marissa Edwards**
Regional Coordinator
- Indiana Sjahputera**
Program Coordinator
- Stephanie Kim**
Regional Coordinator
- Naser Moin**
Regional Coordinator
- LEADERSHIP**
- Victorioso Delacruz**
- PROFESSIONAL**
- Paraag Maddiwar**
Director of Professional Programs

- Megan Weaver**
Manager of Professional Programs
- Jessica Moy**
Professional Programs Coordinator
- Dennis Hirotsu**
Executive Advisor
- Uday Sheth**
Executive Advisor
- PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE**
- David Pham**
Professional Information Technology
- Yvonne Chen**
Professional Information Technology
- Diane Salmon**
Professional Conferences (National Convention Leader)
- Laurel Anderson**
Professional Conferences
- Meena Shyamsundar**
Professional Conferences
- Simi Maurya**
Professional Conferences
- Rishi Ramprashad**
Professional Conferences
- Tram Nguyen**
Bridge Team (Team Leader)
- Sudarsan Venkatachalam**
Bridge Team
- Van Pham**
Bridge Team
- Erika Lai**
Bridge Team (Pro chapter leader)
- PROFESSIONAL EVENTS**
- Shruti Bahadur**
Women's Leadership Conference
- Teresa Mar**
Women's Leadership Conference
- Jim Lee**
Organization Support
- THE ADULT TABLE PODCAST**
- Jason Chin**
Co-Host and Executive Producer
- Jenny Cheung**
Co-Host and Executive Producer
- Amberly Ngo**
Marketing Lead
- Aaron Ildefonso**
Producer
- Amy Ngo**

- Marketing Coordinator
- Ronak Desai**
Editor
- NATIONAL MARKETING**
- Han Le**
Marketing Coordinator
- Calvin Yeung**
Discord Specialist
- Emily Nguyen**
Discord Specialist
- John Villafuerte**
Discord Specialist
- Carol Geng**
Merchandising Specialist
- Eliza Batongmalaki**
Regional Marketing Representative Manager
- REGIONAL MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES**
- Megha Ramanan**
Midwest Regional Marketing Representative
- Samantha Fernandez**
Midwest Regional Marketing Representative
- Amy Ngo**
Northeast Regional Marketing Representative
- Michelle Ling**
Northeast Regional Marketing Representative
- Justin Abraham**
South Regional Marketing Representative
- Vy Hua**
South Regional Marketing Representative
- Alex Hattori**
West Regional Marketing Representative
- Olivia Wyatt**
West Regional Marketing Representative
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**
- Rolland Huie**
Manager of Information Technology

- Lucas Eng**
Information Technology Data (Cybersecurity)
- Raquel Gonzalez**
Information Technology National Convention Mobile App
- Jerry Jiang**
Information Technology National Convention Mobile App
- Andrew Kalathra**
Information Technology UIUX
- Anthony Lai**
Information Technology UIUX
- Vincent Nguyen**
Information Technology UIUX
- Nihar Patel**
Information Technology UIUX
- Frederica Shih**
Information Technology UIUX
- Dat Vu**
Information Technology UIUX
- Derek Zhu**
Information Technology Data (CRM)
- VOLUNTEER RESOURCES**
- Gigi Elbert**
Director of Events & Shared Services
- Kristen Pham**
Volunteer Resources Manager
- Rebecca Cho**
Volunteer Resources Manager
- Sun Yang**
Recruiter
- Kieran Tay**
Volunteer Resource Talent Specialist
- Mya Soukeseum**
Volunteer Resources Analyst
- Jess Shen**
Awards Coordinator
- Connie Wang**
External Communications Officer
- Gerry Zheng**
Volunteer Resources Generalist
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2023 VOLUNTEER SUMMIT

We are thrilled to announce the success of our first-ever Volunteer Summit, which brought together volunteers from our volunteer resources, marketing, information technology (IT), national convention, collegiate, and professional departments. Hosted in Seattle, Washington, volunteers from across the nation met peers with whom they have been working for months and even years, as well as connected with new and returning faces!

This momentous event served as a platform to build a stronger community, leverage collective wisdom, strengthen organizational alignment, and recognize the invaluable contributions of our volunteers. By fostering new connections and brainstorming on new ideas, we have ignited a spirit of collaboration that will drive our organization's mission forward with renewed enthusiasm.

During our downtime, volunteers from different departments gathered for epic food adventures that left taste buds tingling and bellies full of joy. Some of our adventurous souls even took the opportunity to explore the enchanting sights of Seattle! As we

ventured through the city streets together, it felt like we were on a grand adventure, discovering new places and creating memories that would be etched in our hearts forever. Seattle became more than just a destination; it became a part of our collective journey – a city where friendships blossomed, and bonds were strengthened.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to all the dedicated volunteers who made this Summit an extraordinary milestone in our journey together. Your unwavering dedication and spirit have propelled SASE to greater heights, and we're excited to witness the impact of your passion on the lives of others.



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